

METAL FORCES

No. 12

£1.00



**KROKUS
YNGWIE
PROPHET
CROSSFIRE
MEGADETH
LIEGE LORD
SAVAGE GRACE**

LIEGE LORD

THE BAND THAT MADE CONNECTICUT FAMOUS

OK, can you name a band more famous than LIEGE LORD that's from Connecticut? No, AEROSMITH don't count they're from Boston.

So, LIEGE LORD might have a little way to go to get Stamford, Connecticut on the map, but in a short period of time, this band has made some great strides. What originally was going to be a 4-song EP on their own label at the beginning of this year, has turned into a debut LP on the newly formed Black Dragon Records. Mind you all of this was accomplished in a matter of a year and a half.

The band was formed by bassist Matt Vinci, guitarist Tony Truglio, drummer Frank Cortese and singer Andy Michaud back in '82. At this time they were a 4-piece club band doing covers. In 1984, they decided to go for a more powerful, all-original sound by adding an extra guitarist by the name of Pete McCarthy and changing their name to LIEGE LORD.

What followed this of course, was a fine 4-song demo tape. (No. 5 according to you the readers in our poll in issue 10.) The songs are mid-paced to fast, but professional. With the use of twin guitars and the bass oriented style of songwriting, obvious IRON MAIDEN influences spring out at you. But not so much in the lyrics especially in my favourite track "Dark Tale" with its unusual chorus, "Focus! Seize It! Flee It! Strife!"

What does the band think when fans say they sound like IRON MAIDEN? "It's definitely not an insult", says guitarist Pete McCarthy. "For now it's good that they say we sound like MAIDEN", says bassist Matt Vinci, "But

after a couple of albums our difference will show."

The difference is showing already. Matt taped me 2 brand new cuts that will appear on this summers debut LP, and these newly written songs sounded very little like the MAIDEN influenced demo. The songs "Vail Of Wrath" and "Amnesty" showed a rougher sound all around. Possibly a sign of things to come.

Getting back to the LP, Black Dragon Records once again plucks another upcoming American band and adds them to its impressive growing list. But not without the help of one of its other signees, SAVAGE GRACE. Matt explains, "Black Dragon originally sent us a letter but we didn't pay too much attention to it because we didn't know anything about licencing in other territories. But later when we went to California to master our EP (which will never be released now) we talked with Chris Logue of SAVAGE GRACE. They just signed with them and he thought it would be the best thing for us, too. So we got in touch with Black Dragon afterwards and they were real interested. After we signed they gave us a nice advance to help us out with the new album."

The music industry is filled with "Could-Be's", "Should-Be's" and "May-Be's". Let's face it, LIEGE LORD is one of them. But with a strong upcoming indie label like Black Dragon behind them, "May-Be" it's all they need to make Connecticut famous.

MIKE VERGANE



THEY'RE BACK

TYGERS OF PANTANG



THE WRECK-AGE

"The Tygers are on better form than ever before" – Mary Anne Hobbs...SOUNDS

NEW ALBUM OUT NOW ON MUSIC FOR NATIONS – MFN 50

PROPHET

POMP BOYS IN LEATHER

KELV HELLRAZER Investigates with SCOTT METAXAS As Main Suspect



"When we get hold of this Christian rock band, their gonna be praying and we're gonna be suing" squeals a rather chirpy young fellow, by the name of Scott Metaxas. Scott is the bass player with one of the finest bands to rise from the USA in a long time, PROPHEET. Their debut LP was given a glowing ten star review in MF No. 11 by yours truly and my feelings about the LP remain unchanged. Pomp Rock of the highest order would be an understatement.

Scott is joined on the LP by Ken Dubman (guitars), Dean Fasano (lead vocals), Ted Poley (drums/lead vocals) and Joe Zujkowski (keyboards). Together the boys rip/roar through such classics as "Street Secrets", "Away From You" and "Sail Away". With so many great songs and such high standards of musician ship, it makes you wonder where this band has been hiding. Scott enlightens me:

"Basically we're all from New Jersey, and we played in that club scene with TWISTED SISTER, ZEBRA, BEAVER BROWN and those type of bands. Kind of the East Coast invasion, (he laughs) mostly in New York. In the five years of PROPHEET's existence we've built up quite a big following. Ted and Dean have been in the band for little over a year. Joe and I formed the band and we go back together about nine years. Ken was only sixteen years old when he joined us, so we had to use a fake ID and everything for him, so that he could play the clubs. He went under the name of Alan Began for three years whilst we played the clubs. I remember announcing to the press his nineteenth birthday and all the club owners were horrified. What happened was that Kenny and I threw together a three-piece band while we were waiting around; PROPHEET was kind of a big extravaganza to take out. Then our lead singer had a car accident while we were recording the album. In fact it was just

about the time we started laying down the vocal tracks, so that meant we were gonna be layed off for about a month; so we grabbed a drummer and went out as a three piece with Kenny and I singing, and played under the name EDGAR CASEY BAND. Edgar Casey of course is the 'sleeping' prophet. We started out just playing a few small clubs and ended up getting calls from Stone Pony and L'Amours. After playing clubs 5-6 days a week we decided it was about time to do an LP. As I mentioned before our singer was involved in a car accident, so we got Dean in to do the vocals. Dean was previously in a band called MESSAGE which included Ritchie Sambora and Alex Jon Such from BON JOVI. MESSAGE has put out an LP which they distributed themselves, and it's real crazy to see Ritchie and Alex strutting their stuff with BON JOVI.

"When Dean came into the studio, I had already completed a lot of the vocals. Dean sang "Street Secrets", "Away From You", "Power Play", "Everything You Are", and "Sail Away" whilst Ted and I share the rest of the vocals."

Who are your influences? "Well, playing the club scene, we had to do a lot of cover versions, so at first it was ELP, LED ZEPPELIN and PINK FLOYD. We used to do covers by all of those bands, and also stick in a few originals of our own, and the promoters would really go crazy. As a whole the band are really into KANSAS. I think Steve Walsh is an amazing singer. I saw STREETS play to about 200 people in a small club a couple of months back, and they were really hot. It's really crazy 'cos they're struggling now.

"An old girlfriend of mine, FIONA brought her LP out the same week as STREETS and her LP took off straight away. Her LP took the steam out of the STREETS promotion scheme. When I spoke to her last, I asked her what

the hell she was doing, Steve Walsh is my favourite singer, you can't do this to him.

"'Away From You' on the LP was written for her, y'see, we both got record deals around the same time, and she asked me to write a song for her, so I did. Then I took it into the band and put it down on tape, so that I could take it to her, and the band thought I was mad, giving the tape away.

"FIONA is a very witty girl, she's like the Val Victorian(?) of her class in school. Her LP was released about a month before ours, so we're gonna chase her up the charts.

"She has just fired her guitarist Bobby Massano, and now he's playing with Joe Lynn Turner who's got a wild new outfit."

How did the band get signed to Total Experience Records? "That was basically through our manager, who had connections. He'd known Lonnie and Don for a long time, and he took the demo tapes we'd got to them, and they just loved 'em, so they signed us. We are their first rock band, paving the way for other young rock bands. Infact we are now changing the LP cover, because as you know, Total Experience is mostly a soul label, so the cover isn't typically rock. The cover which is now available was really rushed, we did it all at the last moment. The jackets were recommended for us by one store, so although it was a good image, it wasn't really the one we want to project. Like you mentioned to me earlier, we could be taken for an R&B

band because of the label, so we thought we'd beef our image up with a new sleeve.

"We are distributed through RCA and when we first brought our LP to their attention they went crazy because they thought every cut was a standout, unlike the "Autograph" LP which they thought just had a couple of good singles. So you can imagine how hard it was choosing a single. RCA has decided to release "Everything You Are" which isn't really representative of our style because it's a ballad. But as you know it's the situation with the radio FM/AOR stations. A rock band only gets played if something is a ballad or it's sickly commercial pap."

On the LP the band really excel in the keyboard department. Joe Zwkowski's keyboards are well OTT and the best I've heard since ZON and SUGARCREEK. "Yeah, Joe is a real wild musician, but I mustn't forget Kenny's guitar playing, he comes from the Eddie Van Halen school of guitar playing and was about the best guitarist on the whole club circuit at one time. For the LP he really toned down so that Joe could dominate in the keyboards field."

What happens next for PROPHET? "Well we hope to come to the UK as TWISTED SISTER told us there was such a good scene over there. We're also getting ready for the second LP. We will be making a demo for that soon. We also have to get rid of this christian rock band using our name." (This explains the opening quote). After just hearing the other PROPHET I think it's a case of delete on sight.

PROPHET

GET IT OR REGRET IT

The

NEW ALBUM

A Time of Changes



EDITORIAL

Fads may come and go but Heavy Metal just plods on from year to year. In case you hadn't noticed this years trend in popular music is a guy from across the Atlantic called Springbean who appears to have encouraged CBS Records to find the odd few millions for the biggest hype campaign I can ever remember. Proof (if it was ever needed) of the public's gullibility to musical trends must lie in the high percentage of rock(!) fans at the wimps, sorry The Boss's English gigs who are there just to see what all the fuss is about. Two important points must be raised here in the summer of '85. Firstly if there is money flowing from record companies bank accounts (for about the first time in 100 years!) why is some of it not heading to promote Rock and Heavy Metal for the future. There are vast reserves of untapped metallic talent on both sides of the Atlantic which need promoting - the potential audience for Heavy Metal is enormous and we must be the most dedicated fans of any music going. We spend vast amounts on records and gigs just to be shunned by the majors and relegated to an Underground movement. This, some may argue, is fine but the whole incentive to play Heavy Metal must surely be disappearing as the possibilities for stardom for bands dwindles away. I, like most of you reading this mag prefer the Underground metal scene but I'm doubtful as to how long the current enthusiasm can last without some major push from record companies into what is happening.

The second significant point this year so far is that live music is making a comeback - videos are not proving a threat to live bands here as many expected. If Bruce (GRATEFUL DEAD on speed) Springbean can pack out our largest arena for three nights then surely the metal UK bands can start pulling some audiences back. So CBS etc put your hands in your pockets for HM and you lot get out to some gigs.

THE BIGOT

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17 Livingstone Link, Chells, Stevenage, Herts SG2 OEP, ENGLAND. Tel: (0438) 720797

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All interested Advertisers should contact Bernard Doe at the above address for details of rates.

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PLAYLISTS

BERNARD DOE

1. Hellish Crossfire-IRON ANGEL (Steam-hammer LP)
2. Skeptics Apocalypse-AGENT STEEL (Combat LP)
3. Anthem - ANTHEM (King Records LP)
4. Fear Of Tomorrow - ARTILLERY (Danish Demo)
5. Hells Belles - HELLS BELLES (Advance LP tape)

DAVE CONSTABLE

1. Heart - HEART (Capitol LP)
2. This Wreck-Age - TYGERS OF PAN TANG (MFN LP)
3. Heartbreak - SABU (HM America LP)
4. Anthem - ANTHEM (King Records LP)
5. Cyclone - VOW WOW (Toshiba -EMI LP)

STEVE HAMMONDS

1. Invasion Of Your Privacy - RATT (Atlantic LP)
2. MEGADETH-(US) Demo
3. Fire Power - LEGS DIAMOND (Cream LP)
4. The Right To Rock - KEEL (Vertigo LP)
5. Violation - STARZ (Capitol LP)

KELV HELLRAZER

1. Save Me Tonight - WHITE SISTER (Demo track)
2. Dancing On Midnight - WHITE SISTER (Demo track)
3. Troubleshooter - WHITE SISTER (Demo track)
4. April Your No Fool - WHITE SISTER (Demo track)
5. Castle Blak - CASTLE BLAK (Advance tape LP)

DAVE REYNOLDS

1. Fight To Survive - WHITE LION (Advance LP tape)
2. SABOTAGE (Italian Demo)
3. Resurrection - TAIST OF IRON (Iron Records LP)
4. Get It While It's Hot - BLACK LACE (Mausoleum LP)
5. Theatre Of Pain - MOTLEY CRUE (Elektra LP)

METAL FORCES HEAD OFFICE

17 LIVINGSTONE LINK
CHELLS
STEVENAGE
HERTS SG2 OEP
ENGLAND
Telephone(0438)720797

EDITOR

BERNARD DOE

ASSISTANT EDITOR

DAVE CONSTABLE

STAFF WRITERS

DAVE REYNOLDS, STEVE HAMMONDS AND
KELV HELLRAZER.

CONTRIBUTORS

Phil DiBenedetto, Heather Flannagan and Mike Vergane.

STAFF PHOTOGRAPHER

WAYNE YOUNGMAN

SECRETARY

DEBORAH DOE

LAYOUT

BERNARD DOE

● HALLOWS EVE have parted company with guitarist Skellator (aka Steve Shoemaker) and plan to continue as a four piece. The band have just had their debut album, "Tales Of Terror", released by Metal Blade.

● HIRAX release their long awaited debut album "Raging Violence" on Metal Blade Records in early August.

● New York's ZILLION (raved about in MF9 - Demo-lition) have signed to the French based Axe Killer Records and release their debut album in August. Also released on AXE KILLER soon are the new albums from GLACIER (a band from Portland, Oregon), HAWAII "The Natives Are Restless", the debut from Italian metallists ROYAL AIR FORCE and a new EP from H-BOMB that includes a cover version of the MONTROSE classic "Space Station No. 5"

● ROSIE VISTA an all-girl German metal band have signed to Noise Records.

● ARMED FORCES have kicked out guitarist and founding member Michael Manne and have changed their name to ARMED FORCE for legal purposes. The bands new contact address is : ARMED FORCE C/O Billy 'Flash' Blakk, 332 Baily Ave., Maple Shade, NJ 08052, USA.

● CHASTAIN have replaced drummer Fred Coury with Les Sharp.

● METALLOID is the name of a new Dutch metal label. The companies first signings include: COUNTERFORCE, TEMPTER, PROUD EXISTANCE and MARTYR.

● MILLENNIUM have changed their name to TYRONE POWER. The band also have a 10-track demo for sale that featured the five tracks from their demo reviewed in MF10 together with five new recordings. The tape is available for £2.80 including postage in the UK or £3.50 overseas. P.O.'s (uncrossed) or IMO's should be made payable to David Price. Send your orders to: TYRONE POWER, C/O Mike Muskett, 14 Chillingham Court, High Grange, Billingham, Cleveland, ENGLAND.

● SIN the LA band formed by ex-W.A.S.P. and STEELER bassist Rik Fox are currently in The Encore Studios recording their debut album. The album will feature new SIN recruits Ric Reed (vocals) and Barry "Vegas" Kendall (drums).

● ACTRESS bass player Corey L'Amour has left the band and formed his own group - SKID ROW.



KING DIAMOND

● KING DIAMOND, the band formed by the ex-MERCYFUL FATE vocalist are currently recording their debut album "Fatal Portrait", in Copenhagen's Soundtrack Studios. As exclusively revealed in MF11, the band also features ex-MERCYFUL FATE members Michael Denner (guitar) and Timi G. Hansen (bass) along with drummer Mickkey Dee (ex-GEISHA) and guitarist Floyd Konstandin. For fan club information, send an IRC to: THE KING DIAMOND COVEN, P.G.Ramms Alle 66, DK 2000F, DENMARK.

Meanwhile ex-MERCYFUL FATE guitarist Hank Shermann is forming a new melodic hard rock band under the monicker of FATE.

● New Jersey's ATTACKER have just released their debut album "Battle At Helm's Deep" on Metal Blade Records.

The band also have a new mailing address, write to:- ATTACKER C/O Mike Sabatini, 211 Adams St., Hoboken, NJ 07030, USA.

● WHITE SISTER are recording a new track for the film "Fright Night". The track is called "Troubleshooter" and was written by ex-ANGEL members Punky Meadows and Fergie Ferguson. The band are also using another keyboardist from a band called ROXBURY DRIVE. WHITE SISTER are still searching the globe for a new record deal.

● VENOM release a new single entitled "Nightmare" at the end of July. The 'b' side features "Satanachist" from the bands "Possessed" album with the 12" version containing an extra track "F.O.A.D.".

● WHITE LION (see LP review) are to appear in the latest Spielberg epic "The Money Pit" starring Tom Hanks. The band are currently recording two new cuts for the film.

● New Jersey's HADES release their second single on 1st September. Featuring two numbers "Widows Mite (Chapter II)" and "The Cross" The single will be released on Sledgehammer Press Records in a limited edition of 1,000 copies. HADES currentline-up is: Michael Percy (vocals), Dan Lorenzo and Scott Le Page (guitars), Sandy Helsel (bass) and T. Coombs (drums).

● New York all-girl troupe POISON DOLLIES whose line-up is: Amy Brammer (vocals), Gina Taglienle (guitar), Gail Kenny (drums) and Mary Owen Felicaone (bass), have just finished their debut LP. Possibly to be titled "Electric City" and featuring cuts like "The Waiting", "All Night Through" and "Love Is For Suckers" the LP is due to be released this summer.

● During our HAWAII interview in MF10, comments were made regarding the band's ex-manager Norm Dale. Norm has recently contacted METAL FORCES to clarify certain points. He claims that he "spent over 4,000 dollars on the band, and got them a recording deal with Combat, which they turned down. I have also never asked for money for interviews."



BAD BOY

"The band that made Milwaukee famous" is the phrase that comes to mind when anyone mentions this band. This is because of their second LP which had that title. Did they steal it off Rod Stewart, or are they really that band in the song, or just pretenders?

The second LP was the last time I was going to hear about them until a friend mentioned a third LP, and possibly a fourth. This prompted further investigation, and eventually while on my trip to America I snared a copy of their fourth LP "Electric Eyes" and immediately got in touch with the band to see if I could get the third LP and an interview. Well you'll be glad to know I got both.

BAD BOY, first came to my attention via an LP called "Back To Back" which was full of solid pop/rock songs all played with a great good time atmosphere which made me pander for more. But this was not to be their follow-up, "The Band That Made Milwaukee Famous" was disappointing. The sound had got more lightweight and the fun seemed to have gone from the songs.

Their third ("Private Party") and fourth ("Electric Eyes") LP's took a different direction, with them playing a harder sort of rock, taking no prisoners and going all out for that commercial sound which hopefully would break them worldwide.

Anyway I got in contact with guitarist Steve Grimm and he provided these answers to my questions.

How did you get to be signed to United Artists (their first record company)? "We cut a demo 'Thinking Of You' and they signed the band on the strength of that."

How did the two LP's go? "Very well in the mid-west, and it enabled the band to tour the US, we sold about 80,000."

What was the reaction like in America and

Japan? "We received fair air-play that lasted about 12 weeks for each of the two LP's."

Then what caused you to leave United Artists? "United Artists changed direction in favour of country artists like Kenny Rodgers, and they also changed ownership."

Was that the reason for the line-up change? "No, that was because of the usual differences."

How did the new record deal come about? "Our agency diversified and started releasing albums they have become successful as Streetwiser."

What is the current state of the band? "We're still looking for the big one, submitting new demos to major companys."

How often do you gig? "We play 4-5 nights throughout the mid-west each week".

Do you think the current interest in metal in the USA has done you any good? "Yes, although we're not really a heavy metal band, more heavy rock."

What are your plans for the future? "We're most concerned about songwriting and have continued to challenge our fans with new material. We're gathering songs for our fifth LP and hopefully, again we will attract a major company to distribute."

"Most company's know of BAD BOY and are still waiting for the song that will break the band across the US. We still enjoy playing live and plan to keep releasing product."

There you have it. To check out BAD BOY further I suggest you try to get a copy of the first LP "Back To Back" or last years "Electric Eyes" LP both of which are excellent.

BAD BOY's current line-up is: Steve Grimm (guitar/keyboards/vocals), John Marcelli (bass), Xeno (guitar) and Billy Johnson (drums)

STEVE HAMMONDS

Savage Grace

INTO THE FIRE

BERNARD DOE Talks To CHRIS LOGUE

Europe's newest independent record label on the Heavy Metal scene is Black Dragon Records from Paris, France. Black Dragon restrict their releases to quality product rather than quantity: To date they have signed up four bands - all incidentally American - namely LIEGE LORD, EXPLORER, MANILLA ROAD and SAVAGE GRACE whose "Master Of Disguise" album (see review in MF10) was the companies first release.

Based in Los Angeles, SAVAGE GRACE's first vinyl offerings were for Metal Blade. They appeared on the "Metal Massacre II" compilation with a track entitled "Scepters of Deceit", and this followed up with the "Dominatress" EP. Since those releases and indeed the last time the band appeared in METAL FORCES (issue No. 3) SAVAGE GRACE have undergone some changes in personnel and the reasons for these changes was the first question I put to band leader and guitarist Chris Logue when I spoke to him recently.

"John Birke (vocals) left because he really wasn't happy doing heavy metal music. He wanted to be more of a pop entertainer like Wayne Newton, a Las Vegas type of thing. So during a tour to San Francisco with SLAYER and EXODUS he just fell apart on stage and we just fired him during a radio interview on KUSF.FM. Brian East and I were doing an interview and we made an announcement that he was fired, while John was back listening on the radio in his hotel room! Not a nice way to do it, but he wasn't really happy in the band.

"Kenny Powell, our other guitarist, wanted to leave because he felt he wasn't in control, and not really the main person in the band. He was kind of living in my shadow really, so he wanted to prove himself and do his own project, so he formed OMEN.



"We replaced John Birke with Mike Smith and the guy who replaced Kenny Powell was Mike Marshall, formerly of AGENT STEEL."

Mike didn't play on the album though did he? "No, we didn't have another guitarist at the time so I done all the guitar

tracks and we hired Mike two months after the album was completed".

How did the switch in record labels, from Metal Blade to Important come about? "At the time we had completed the album we had already terminated our contract with Metal Blade due to the fact that they didn't really pay any money. Nobody has ever made any money on that label, no matter how many records they sell and the contracts that Metal Blade use are very poor for the artists. The attitude of Brian Slagel (Metal Blade boss) is - "If you don't like it then that's tough because I have a hundred other bands who are ready to release albums."

"We wanted to get another deal in the States and the best distribution deal we could find was with Important. They were better than what Metal Blade had at the time, which was going through Greenworld, and they were looking to sign acts strictly for pressing and distribution deals. They would press the album and distribute it, but the bands would have to be their own label, take care of promotion and touring, things like that. Which was a very good deal for us, as we're a very independent band and don't like to be subject to anyone's authority really."

"The album is selling really well in the States. It hasn't had any sort of promotion because we haven't got much money; so it's been selling on its own merits, through word of mouth, fanzines and basically underground support."

"And now we've just entered into the European market with Black Dragon."

How did you get involved with Black Dragon? "Well they heard that once our album was done that we needed European licensing and I'd already talked to Roadrunner and a couple of other companies and none of them really impressed me with their attitude. Everyone treated it as just another release for their machine and nobody seemed to care. But when I talked to Black Dragon they really seemed to want to do something with a lot of integrity and really believed in what they wanted. So I signed the deal with them, not really knowing what to expect as they were a new company. But we've been really happy with Black Dragon, the promotion for us in Europe has been excellent and the sales have reflected this. The reviews and

write ups we've had, we've been very happy with and right now Black Dragon are working on getting a European tour for us."

How long is your deal with Black Dragon? "We have an album to album deal, we're not bounded up for any options. But I've been very happy with them so far and if we don't do anything on a bigger level we'll probably stay with them for our next album for Europe."

And in the States? "Well we're always talking to the major labels, but at the moment a lot of bands are being dropped because they've been signing the wrong bands. They've been signing commercial metal, JUDAS PRIEST style bands, which is old and the kids don't want that anymore. They want the speed metal, something more aggressive and something more offensive. The bands they've been signing are very safe, they don't offend anybody and so they don't sell many records. I think you will see in the next two years, major record companies starting to sign thrash bands, like Elektra who have signed METALLICA which was a very bold step."



CHRIS LOGUE

Although "Master Of Disguise" is undoubtedly an excellent album - one of the years best - I did find the production a little weak. Does Chris agree? "Yeah, we could have done a little better in the production department with a little more time and money - also it was the first time anybody had used that studio - but I felt the essence of the music, the songs themselves come over exactly the way I wanted them to."

Would you put yourself under any tag, like power metal or thrash metal to describe your music? "We're not fairly represented by the term Heavy Metal, we're really trying to do something

where the future of Heavy Metal is or what it will progress to. On our next album we will be a lot more politically orientated as far as the lyrical theme, and leaning away from the themes that are fantasies or escapist. The music itself will be more melodic but at the same time we're getting a lot faster, more intricate, and we're trying to blend two forces just like the name SAVAGE GRACE."

"We're trying to take metal beyond where it is right now, which is played as fast as possible and hope for the best attitude, like SLAYER and EXODUS, which is good but I think you can only get so fast and so mindless before you have to go somewhere. So I guess we are more of an experimental band at this point."

What is the LA metal scene like at the moment? "Right now the big thing is glam rock, but it's the metal bands who all have albums out (SLAYER, ABATTOIR, MEGADETH, DARK ANGEL, AGENT STEEL etc...). The glam bands don't have any records, they just play the clubs. Metal bands though are getting out on the road and their records are selling well worldwide."

"There's not that many new metal bands, but the ones that are here are starting to prove themselves and get serious, and the metal fans are getting behind them heavily."

But isn't it true that many LA bands, SLAYER and METALLICA for instance, have had to go up to San Francisco to make their name first? "That was true for a while, but there really isn't the kind of support for any band because there are not that many people. When we played up there with EXODUS who are their biggest band they only drew 200-300 people which isn't really many. But here in LA the average metal bands on an average night get 400-500 people. San Francisco is just not a very big market and I think if people want to talk about people being hardcore then yes, for a while San Francisco fans were a lot more wild than LA fans. But now LA is the wildest, the people are just getting so insane to these thrash metal bands. The level of violence and wildness is just beyond what San Francisco ever did. Even the bands from San Francisco will tell you that."

But aren't LA gigs full of posers? "Well it really was for a long time but it's not now, because of SLAYER getting so huge. When SLAYER play here now it's a major riot with many injuries!"

Have you played any gigs in areas outside of LA or San Francisco? "Yeah, we've played Phoenix, Arizona and basically all over Southern California. We're hoping to get into Texas and the East Coast and will probably be touring with ABATTOIR. We would also like to come to Europe because our record is doing so much better there than in the LA in terms of sales because we are getting the right kind of promotion. When we get to Europe I'm hoping it will be with LICE IORI who have also toured to Black Dragon."

You were responsible for getting LICE IORI that deal, wasn't you? "Yeah, they were looking for a deal and there wasn't much interest in them here - I don't know why it's a great album - so I suggested that if they were interested in a European label, that Black Dragon were looking for new acts. So I got them to send a tape and I believe their record will be released this week."

What other plans have SAVAGE GRACE got for the remainder of this year?

"We would like to spend the rest of the summer and early fall on the road and set up as many tours as possible. We probably won't be in the studio again until November or December."

"Right now we need a lot more exposure in the States. The problem here is that a lot of magazines like Circus, Creem and Hit Parader aren't serious, they're just a joke. They're like record companies' promotion papers, and to get exposure in these magazines you have to pay for it, just like advertising. There are no magazines with any integrity here like METAL FORCES, Enfer, Metal Hammer or Barrn and people are just interested in making money than doing anything with journalistic integrity. Nobody cares to really review the substance of the music, they just look at what your hair looks like or kind of spikes you wear. They're not interested in the substance - just the packaging."

But there's still a tiny underground following and there's a helluva lot of

good fanzines in the States. "Oh yeah, many and the kids try hard but they're not very well distributed. But surely every bit helps? "Yes it does and I support all of these fanzines."

Too right. Along with tape traders, fanzines are the backbone of the underground metal movement and should be supported to the max. (If there's a few doozy publications about, but many a good metal band have secured a record deal thanks to the initial exposure from fanzines.)

Anyway back to SAVAGE GRACE, and anyone who's not grabbed hold of a copy of "Master of Disguise" yet which has just been released in the States as a colour picture disc, are strongly advised to do so now for an orgy of speed and class metal. I for one am certainly looking forward to SAVAGE GRACE's visit to these shores.

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HELLANBACH

METAL ON VINYL

IRON ANGEL

Hellish Crossfire
(Steam Hammer)



The rate of excellent releases over the past month or so has been quite remarkable and IRON ANGEL's debut vinyl offering just about caps the list. The German quintet entered what was to come with their superb "Legions of Evil" demo (see review in MF1) and those expectations have certainly been delivered and more with "Hellish Crossfire".

"Metallian" kind of assault in true NWOBHM style which lays the foundations perfectly for the remainder of the album, as the likes of "Church of the Lost Souls", "Legions of Evil", "The Devil" and "Heavy Metal Soldiers" are released with unbridled authority.

As well as high quality material, IOWA also has as a fine vocalist who is the downfall for many a promising black metal band. Dirk Schroder delivers his Wildford inspired vocals around the band's intense rhythm and twin lead attack perfectly. Listen to "Enter In Chains" and "Legions of Evil" for prime examples.

Both "Church of the Lost Souls" and "Black Mass" hints touches of NWOBHM CHURCH about them whilst "Nightmare" is a little more controlled in structure.

A truly excellent album from probably the best black metal band of the year.

LIEGE LORD

Freedom's Ride
(Black Dragon 004)



You probably remember my review of LORD's debut in MF8, describing it as being "a potential masterpiece". Well, it is, recovering from being rejected to a massive support of METAL courtesy of the debut piece of death.

Terms like "imperial", "unreal" and "Bay of Pigs" die" you've no idea how before (especially from Constable!) when told about metal classics: This album is no exception. I was honestly surprised that it

turned out so well, the production more or less being perfect and the material will surely kick in.

All the demo tracks are included; the only one I was a little disappointed to find was "Killing Iron Parts", only because I didn't take to the strange mix of truly "heavy" vocals. However, the album is a real gem, especially for the "Legions of Evil" and "Heavy Metal Soldiers" which are the future of NWOBHM.

LIEGE LORD's material is to the same high standards as the familiar stuff; it's a real gem, especially for the "Legions of Evil" and "Heavy Metal Soldiers" which are the future of NWOBHM. The album is a real gem, especially for the "Legions of Evil" and "Heavy Metal Soldiers" which are the future of NWOBHM.

TAIST OF IRON

Resurrection
(Iron Records)



Dare I say that this lot are the latest NW discovery? The curiously named T.O.I. come from Tacoma, Washington and are fronted by a very powerful vocalist in the form of Lorraine Gill, whose vocals can best be described as a cross between Lee Aaron and Wendy Williams.

Now this record isn't the greatest thing I've ever heard, particularly from a part of the US that has spawned some of the quality of T.O.I., but I really believe that if this outfit got in a professional renowned producer to teach them a thing or two then T.O.I. could come up with something truly stunning.

The band's debut album, produced by guitarist John Pearson, is chock-a-block full of wailing guitars, heavy bass lines and thunderous drumming; which is what you like that sort of thing, but I feel the songs themselves become a little lost beneath this slightly heavy-

handed approach; and Lorraine's unique vocals could really rip your guts out if given a more sympathetic treatment at the mixing desk.

"Resurrection" is an album that many of you should enjoy. There are hard'n'fast tracks that walk on a knife edge such as "The Gates" and if you want cliches try "Bloody Axe" for size which has a real 'bell effects. "BATH" riffs etc.

Guitar fan will get an allied kick out of the ever present pyrotechnics of Pearson who is pretty adept at all things axeceptable, even if he does indulge in VAN HALEN mirror imagery in the form of three short guitar intro's on the album, namely "Metal Taco" (I could do with some Taco's right now. I love 'em!)

This group, completed by Mark Hable on bass and Jeff Massey on drums, is definitely in for some further coverage in MF very soon. If you have a 'Taist' for Iron Maiden then the lovely Miss Gill (who incidentally screams like nobody's business on my favourite LP out "Angie" is the maiden to look for. Pleasant dreams.

DAVE REYNOLDS

SILVER MOUNTAIN



The Silver Mountain band are a real gem, especially for the "Legions of Evil" and "Heavy Metal Soldiers" which are the future of NWOBHM. The album is a real gem, especially for the "Legions of Evil" and "Heavy Metal Soldiers" which are the future of NWOBHM.

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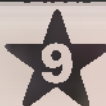
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TYGERS OF PAN TANG

The Wreck-Age
(Music For Nations)



Well the TYGERS are back together and have produced an LP full of English hard rock songs of the finest quality. This album oozes class and falls neatly between the paths of LIONHEART and say URIAH HEEP - it's full of powerful but commercial songs with Jon Deverill's vocals being the best he's produced - outstanding. Those of you who rave over good English metal with that US edge will die over tracks such as "Innocent Eyes" and "Women In Cages" both penned by Lorna Wright, along with the title song which is nothing short of masterful. In short buy - satisfaction guaranteed.

DAVE CONSTABLE

GRIM REAPER

Fear No Evil
(Ebony/RCA)



Now this is bound to put 'The Greeps' (© CREAM) up with RATT and CRUE in the Billboard charts; much more air-playable and, dare I say it, commercial than the debut "See You In Hell". However success hasn't gone to their heads and they still churn out metal that agrees with my differing tastes. "Fear No Evil" is as fine a vehicle as any for the talents of Bowcott and Grimmett. (as well as bassist Dave Wanklin and new drummer Mark Simon).

The duo's songwriting has matured a great deal since the debut. In the main it's first rate but there are a couple of tracks with arrangements I feel unsure about.

The album blasts off with the title track, quite lightweight really but Grimmett takes command with some amazing vocal gymnastics. "Never Coming Back" could be an out-take from the "See You In Hell" album with more Grimmett specials and "Lords Of Darkness" is vintage Greeps.... check out "Lay It On The Line" too. Great stuff.

The heavier side of GRIM REAPER's writing can be heard on "A Matter Of Time" and "Let The Thunder Roar" but there are a couple, of what I'd call, average songs included - the rather abstract "Rock And Roll Tonight" - which I dislike; closely

followed by "Fight To The Last" which is a bit throw-away also the rather silly intro to "Final Scream" which appears to me to be a piss-take of those TWISTED SISTER promo videos! Why guys? The song itself is good enough without it. Still, if this LP gives you The Greeps I'm happy!

DAVE REYNOLDS

P.S. The RCA release in America will be a heavier mix version.

CELTIC FROST

Emperor's Return
(Noise Mini-LP)



CELTIC FROST continue to improve with each outing. This latest effort contains both the doomy "Dethroned Emperor" and the frantic black metal of "Morbid Tales" which every FROST fan will no doubt already have in their collection via the "Metal Attack" Noise compilation and/or the Metal Blade version of the "Morbid Tales" mini-album.

As for the newer material well "Suicidal Winds" is my particular fave and is certainly the most intense track here. "Circle of Tyrants" is a fine mixture of doom and thrash with some nifty soloing from Tom Warrior whilst "Visual Aggression" is pure blatant thrash. Great stuff!

I can already hear people claiming that I've succumbed to majority opinion over Tom Warrior's underground acceptance. But whilst I acknowledge CELTIC FROST's arrival into the serious metal league with overwhelming approval, I still stand by my views on HELLHAMMER - they were fuckin' shit! Even Tom Warrior must agree with that, after all why else would he terminate the band and start afresh?

Anyway let's leave the memory of HELLHAMMER well and truly buried and enjoy what CELTIC FROST have to offer. The new album could be a classic?

BERNARD DOE

WHITE LION

Fight To Survive
(Advance LP tape)



This LP is the one everyone's been waiting for. I mean the biggie. WHITE LION fronted by vocalist/loudmouth, Wildman etc. Mike Tramp perhaps the nations new heart throb (see ya round Dave Lee). The Danish born rocker has superstar written all over his face and this LP is gonna

get him there.

The LP gets off to a killing start with "Broken Heart" certainly a wild teen dream anthem with a hookline that embeds itself on your memory. "There is life, still after a broken heart" chants Tramp. "Cherokee" reminds me of DOKKEN. Apparently this number is dedicated to the outrageous Joann Vesca, a chick who threatened to floor me in Shades if I was to give WHITE LION a bad review, damn I should have taken up her offer to give this LP a thumbs down but I couldn't because this LP is so hot. Title track "Fight To Survive" is a real killer in fact it's fucking brilliant. Vitto Bratto does an 'Eruption' type guitar intro and the number develops into the successor of HALEN's "Running With The Devil". "In The City" closes side one and is a real epic in the style that made TRIUMPH famous.

Side two is much the same as the amazing side one; "All The Fallen Men", "Kid Of 1,000 Faces" and "El Salvador" are all rippers. To show how much class they have WHITE LION even finish the LP with a piano type ballad which even works, yep, believe it comes off. This LP is gonna sell bucket loads, just remember where you heard it first and look out for the imminent FORCES feature.

KELV HELLRAZER

SYE

Turn On The Fire
(Roadrunner Records)



This is the Toronto based trio's debut album and sees the band sounding a lot more melodic than on those early demos of three or four years back.

SYE are very much in the SCORPIONS mould here with "I'm The One" and "You've Got The Power" being the prime examples thanks to Bernie Carlos', Klaus Meine impersonations, especially on the latter where he also puts in some tasty lead work. My fave tracks however are the instrumental title track and the frantic metal of "Shoot To Kill".

As for the rest, well "Street Queen" and the good time metal of "Rock 'N' Roll Girls" are fairly average while the ballad "Call Of The Wild" and the plodding "Runnin' Scared" I'm afraid fall below par. Expect improvements next time around.

BERNARD DOE

WORLD WAR III
World War III
(Axe Killer)



Don't be put off by the shitty cover of this album, as the contents from this quartet from Philadelphia are quite brilliant. Flod metal with class. The kind of stuff that the likes of ACCEPT and QUIET RIOT would be playing if they had any talent.

Take "War Is Hell" for instance. Built around a simple totally unoriginal riff, the song cascades into an immediate classic thanks to its catchy chorus, intelligent structure and brilliant execution.

With a couple of exceptions the whole album is very much in the same vein. Flooding along with awesome authority. Listen especially to the Mike Shannon rave, "Final Solution", an epic of true brilliance with a menacing vocal performance from Tipa Sparrs. We'll be hearing a lot more of this guy that's for sure.

Only on the superb "Red Alert" do WORLD WAR III really put the foot down on the accelerator, whilst for a ballad I find "Gypsy Eyes" most appealing.

The other three cuts "Call Of The Wind", "Steal The Night Away" and "Playin' With Fire" are equally as good adding up to one hell of a debut album, sure to push WORLD WAR III into the major league.

BERNARD DOE

HARDWARE
In Cold Blood
(Steamhammer)



The first time I heard this band was about three years ago when BFBS' 'HM Show' host Tony Jasper gave me a demo by the group. A name for the future I thought. However they released a really bad debut album last year called "Common Time Heroes" that got slagged elsewhere.

They've bounced back with this five tracker with a sort of air-playable thrash metal direction. Hard-core merchants should love the GRAVE-

DIGGER sounding "6000 Bones" with Mark Stadtler shrieking and wailing for all he's worth. "Ready To Kill" is more of the same, high-lighting some tight rhythm playing, if a really naff chorus.

"Get Down On Your Knees" is a bit plodding but has totally OTT lyrics that include the line "I was losing all control. I put my fat dick in her hole". It's true! Our friends at Sledgehammer Press will love it!! "Hell Is Rising" has dodgy moments but the music rises above the poor vocal arrangement, whilst "In Cold Blood" races along in fast metal style, to prove that HARDWARE are back.

DAVE RYFYNOLDS

SABU

Heart Break
(HM America)



Paul Sabu must be one of the happiest guys around at the moment and you may well be wondering why? I'll tell you why. This guy SABU is gonna have one of the biggest selling records of '85 providing things go ahead as planned record company wise. We are talking serious business here: delete HAGAR delete Y&T and delete just about everybody else because SABU are the new gods of GOR (guitar orientated rock) as we know it.

So many brilliant songs on one LP I can't rave about them enough. My favourite number is probably "Breakin' Out" this number has such atmosphere to it, and it could well turn out to be the natural successor to Y&T's "Rescue Me". "Shake Rattle And Roll", would even have had Bill Haley shakin' his head in appreciation. "New Girl In Town" is a direct RAINBOW steal and I love every second. Listen out for Rick Bozzo's extravagant OTT bass pyrotechnics.

Elsewhere you have "Hot Flash" which is definitive fiery rock song. The title track "Heart Break" ain't no slush rock wimphem either, no way it's killer rockin' all the way. In fact, it's been on the cards for a long time that Paul Sabu should be a

superstar, I mean the guy is an in demand producer, an excellent songwriter, a killer vocalist/guitarist and and..... My god what else does this guy need to do. I tell you I'm totally impressed and I think you will be.

KELV HELLRAZER

WARLOCK

Hellbound
(Vertigo)



Following last years superb debut "Burning The Witches", the latest WARLOCK album was one of the most eagerly awaited releases of '85. And as the titanic thrust of the opening and title track leapt from the speakers, expectations of a 10 star classic album were very high indeed.

However, never judge an album by the opening track because what followed left me both disappointed and dreaming of what could have been.

Basically, WARLOCK have fallen into the ACCEPT trap of adopting the simple, take no chances approach, which may appeal in their masses to your average clean-cut headbanger, but any true metallist will tell you that this is not what modern day metal is all about.

Admittedly the material 's not that bad and I'm sure WARLOCK will gain more fans than they loose, but I'm afraid mundane rockers such as "Down And Out" "Out Of Control" and "Wrathchild" do nothing for yours truly.

It must be said that the vocal performance from the beautiful Dorothea (or Doro as she's now known) Pesca is 100% first class, notably on "All Night" (great vocals shame about the song) and "Catch My Heart" which as ballads go isn't that bad.

"Earthshaker Rock", "Shout It Out", "Time To Die" and of course the aforementioned "Hellbound" are all in the high energized league - in fact the latter is quite brilliant - but compared with the likes of "Metal Lacer", "Hateful Guy" and "Homicide Rocker" from the band's first epic I'm afraid to these ears it's not quite good enough.

BERNARD DOE

THE BEST YOUNG UNSIGNED BAND IN BRITAIN NOW HAVE A DEAL

CHROME MOLLY

TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT

THEIR FIRST SERIOUS LP EVER

AGENT STEEL
Skeptics Apocalypse
(Combat Records)



The original MAIDEN on speed band finally unleash their debut vinyl offering and as promised it's an absolute classic.

The opening narrated intro to "Agents Of Steel" soon makes way for a deluge of thrash, speed and melody, all executed with lightning precision. Each of the eight tracks are totally brilliant; "Bleed For The Gods" is one of my particular faves and features some great twin soloing, as it is throughout the album, from Kurt Kilfelt and Juan Garcia.

"Evil Eye, Evil Minds" sounds like SLAYER with melody while "Taken By Force" hints touches of FATE. Could that really be King Diamond on backing vocals?

Those MAIDEN influences are evident throughout the album both instrumentally and the uncanny Dickenson sounding vocals of John Cyriis-listen especially to "Children Of The Sun" and the superb "144,000 Gone" ("Number Of The Beast" revisited) to see what I mean. But who cares about the MAIDEN influences? I don't that's for sure as I find AGENT STEEL far more exciting and despite the comparisons the band have quite a distinctive sound and deserve to be huge.

BERNARD DOE

SPHINX

Burning Lights
(Mausoleum Skull 8389)



SAINTS ANGER

Saints Anger
(Mausoleum Skull 8363)



TOX

Prince Of Darkness
(Mausoleum Skull 8395)



More German metalheads, it certainly looks as if my youth spent in Germany marks me out to be the man chosen to review the latest Kraut metal offerings in this issue doesn't it? No, actually SPHINX and TOX are Swiss, but what's the difference?!

The first of the bunch is SPHINX whose membership actually seems to have a distinct Italian flavour. Musically they're pretty good, relying on PURPLE/ELP influences (yes, they have a keyboardist) and at times put some touches of jazz rock into the works. The vocals, by Rolando Scarponi,

are slightly spoilt by his European accents (what SPHINX need is a Frank Dimino) but they remind me of OMEGA (the Hungarian ultra prog-pomp rock mob) fused with PURPLE and laced with OPUS (Austrian SAGA clones). This record's worth buying if you like this sort of stuff and I feel they're the best European pomp-metal, if that's a term I can use, band I've heard since the sadly missed TOKYO.

Co-produced by TRANCE men Lothar Antoni and Karl Heinz Osche, SAINTS ANGER have a lot of support it seems from the people at Mausoleum, however despite the good production I think this record is fucking garbage. With that off my chest need I go on?

As for TOX, I was VERY surprised when I heard this one. I'd really expected the same sort of shit SAINTS ANGER delivered. I put side two on first my mistake but was blown away by the bouncy metallic pace of "Leisure Time" which reminded me one helluva lot of WRATHCHILD! This trio can play AND write songs too. It's a bit pop-metal and there are ballads ("Hard Hearted" is the best delivery of a ballad by a European band I've EVER heard) but it's just so refreshing to listen to this record. I'm sure everyone's gonna get into this when I inform them of its unknown potential - the cover is very deceptive y'know! Buy this album, amaze your friends, Love it to death, get some high TOXic metal in your blood today. Buy! Buy! Buy! Mausoleum, put me in touch.

DAVE REYNOLDS

WARRANT

The Enforcer
(Noise N0023)



Hot on the heels of the band's "First Strike" mini-LP comes this, the full length blooded attack.

Since the last offering WARRANT have added a second guitarist Oliver May who has given the band a far more heavier sound. "Torture In The Tower" for instance puts the Germans into SLAYER and VENOM territory.

The title track is an awesome thrasher - the albums best cut - whilst "Betrayal" contains plenty of twin guitar velocity from May and Thomas Klein.

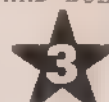
"Muns Have No Fun" (no relation to MERCYFUL FATE) is probably the weakest number but overall an improve-

ment on "First Strike" leaving high expectations for future product.

BERNARD DOE

TRASH

Burnin' Rock
(Atlantic)



AC/DC clones in the extreme. I liked the first LP but as for this - totally delete.

DAVE CONSTABLE

THRASHER

Thrasher
(Music For Nations)



No, not a thrash metal album, but a collection of some of the US's best Underground musicians playing on a variety of songs of general good quality. Although "Widowmaker" track 3 side 1 is as close as most of these musicians will ever get to speed metal, the majority of the material is of a standard pace - this being my main criticism. Still, a couple of songs stand out is "Bad Boys" with Rhett Forrester taking the vocal lead, and "Burning At The Speed Of Light" with EXCITER's Dan Beehler pounding out some death vocals on a real barnstormer. So Carl Canedy has come up with a good idea and it's come off quite well. Good stuff.

DAVE CONSTABLE

DESTINY

Beyond All Sense
(Musik Bolaget)



A promising debut here from this Swedish quintet. Even the narrated intro sounds impressive and more original than usual.

Musically the material is powerful stuff ranging from the FATEish "Power By Birth" and "Sacrilege" to the slightly more commercial accessible sounds of "Hang Them High" and "More Evil Than Evil". The only grievance I really have is for the production which could be a lot better.

The band have a powerful vocalist in Hakan Ring as displayed on the albums best track, the fast'n' heavy "Rest In Peace", and guitarist John Proden too shows some immense talent up and down the fret board, especially on the early ACCEPT sounding "Kill The Witch". All DESTINY want for the next album is a good producer, then we could be talking classic product - the potential is certainly there.

BERNARD DOE

CRACK JAW

"Nightout"
(Steam Hammer)



Yet another highly talented German combo, but this time we're not talking about metal of the black and thrash variety. No, CRACK JAW are like a heavier version of DEF LEPPARD and more metal orientated than HEAVY PETTIN'.

The material is generally strong, with the imaginative "Nightout" and the fast paced rocker "Struck By Thunder" being the pick of the bunch.

There are a couple of low points, namely "Make Me Believe" which is a little too boppy for my liking whilst the six minute epic "Seven Days Of Wonder" tries to be a little too clever with its constant tempo changes. It must also be said that CRACK JAW are not so hot in the harmony vocal department either. Still a good debut from a promising young band.

BERNARD DOE

TOBRUK

Wild On The Run
(Parlophone)



Turn up the speakers, open the beers, dinner is served.

Dinner in this case being TOBRUK's first piece of extended vinyl platter "Wild On The Run".

I've so far heard this album described as everything from a dog's dinner, to a fine cup of coffee - not to mention all the snacks inbetween. It's certainly better baked than their previous pizzas - which would have something to do with new found Master Chef Lance Quinn. Okay, so maybe "Wild On The Run" isn't quite as dazzling a debut as the one olde Lancy baby pulled from the toaster for BON JOVI, but who needs the sauce's when you've got 100% beef?

Especially succulent is the adrenaline filled "Rebound" and the stage fav, "Going Down For The Third Time". No obesity here, just the short, sharp, punchy solos, which are

fast becoming the hallmark of Messrs. Newman and Evans.

Also to be found among the ingredients are "Falling", which on my menu should have done a lot better. And the ala Jems style "Poorgirl", ie intelligent use of keyboards to add a crispy topping instead of the soggy chips so many keyboard players make us suffer.

The lesser ingredients which round off this minor piece of gastronomic excellence, are "Wild On The Run", "Running From The Night", "She's Nobody's Angel" and "Breakdown".

If you like your rock with balls garnished with melody rather than thrash, I can recommend you forego the steak for one evening, give your ears a feast and treat yourself to a copy of "Wild On The Run".

But for those of you with empty pockets who not try winning one! Yeap, METAL FRIDGES, has ten autographed freebies for the taking. All you lucky chaps have to do is answer the following:-

1) What other HM artist has a US hit album produced by Lance Quinn, in 1984?

2) Name the group which TOBRUK supported last year on their major UK tour?

3) What was TOBRUK's first single on Parlophone?

Send your entries to: TOBRUK Competition, METAL FRIDGES, 17 Livingstone Link, 1111, Stevenage, Herts., SG2 2EP, ENGLAND.

The closing date is 10th August, 1985 and the winners will be announced in M11.

HEATHER BLAGAN

P.S. The diet is going well, and no I'm not seriously thinking about food!

DESTRUCTION

"Infernal Overkill"
(Steam Hammer)



Following on from the excellent "Centuries of Death" mini-album, "Infernal Overkill" is DESTRUCTION's first full length assault of their German black thrash attack, and once again the band have come up with the goods.

It's all frantic thrashing from the word go as

"Invincible Force" comes leaping from the speakers, with only "Antichrist" showing any respect for neck muscles, being a little more controlled than the rest.

"Death Trap" tends to get a little lost half-way through, where there's a sudden drop in intensity, but all is soon restored as the band thrash out into an already finished with guitarist Mike playing some superb manic leadwork. This guy continues to amaze with a fine all-round performance - listen particularly to "The Ritual" and the excellent "Tormentor" - and will surely figure high in our list of gear polls.

The instrumental "Thrash Attack" is a little disappointing, but "Black" and the ultra speed of "Infernal Overkill" are totally brilliant, underlining what DESTRUCTION are probably the best metal answer to "Metal". And it's essential purchase? Well of course, buy and fry!

MARK LEE

WAYSTED

The Good, The Bad, The Waysted
(Music For Nations)



WAYSTED play rock'n'roll metal of a raw kind - a sort of AEROSMITH meets THE TRIFLES, but heavier. Unfortunately I don't think they do it too well, although this IF is a much better offering than that mini-album of last year. No comparisons are possible between this outfit and UFO, which is surely a good thing - this is definitely rock and roll. Check out "Lead In Your Eyes" for Rod Stewart impersonations for example. Even so, it is good but this just isn't my cup of tea - it is the distinctive positive point of the band, raw sounding but with melody.

Still "The Good...." includes a few gems ie the ALBUQUERQUE sounding "Angry" and the commercial cut heavy single "Heaven Tonight". Not an essential purchase though.

DAVE CONSTABLE

THE BEST YOUNG UNSIGNED BAND IN BRITAIN NOW HAVE A DEAL.

CHROME MOLLY

TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT

THEIR FIRST SERIOUS 12" (E CHROME)

BLIND FURY

Out Of Reach
(Roadrunner)



It's been quite a while since SATAN changed their name to BLIND FURY and this is their first vinyl offering under their new monicker.

So the question is, how much musically has the band changed? Well they certainly haven't lost any of that complexity in their instrumentation but at the same time have thrown a lot more melody into the affray.

The opening cut "Do It Loud" is certainly a little more commercial than past offerings but is a strong opener just for safe and probably one of the albums best tracks along with "Living on the Edge" and "Dynamo". Both of these numbers are fast paced, out and out rockers sure to go down a storm with old SATAN fans. But I find the plodding rock of "Evil Eyes" fairly unimaginative and disappointing.

The title track too, tends to drag on a little but features a strong vocal performance from Lou Taylor, while both "Back Inside" and "Contact Rock And Roll" - BLIND FURY's trademark - are safe catchy rockers enhancing the bands more accessible sound.

"Dance Of The Crimson Lady Part 1" closes the album and is a kind of DIO like epic but doesn't quite work so well.

"Out Of Reach" is far from the album to put the pride back into British metal, as I anticipated back in MF5 during our BLIND FURY interview, but is still worth checking out and the band certainly haven't totally wimped out as many people predicted.

BERNARD DOE

ANTHEM

Anthem
(King Records - Jap Import)



Arguably Japan's best metal band, ANTHEM finally release their long awaited debut album.

"Wild Anthem" opens the proceedings showing touches of JUDAS PRIEST and it's immediately noticeable that the band have developed a more controlled classier sound than those earlier thrash'n'roll bands. Both "Rock'n' Roll Stars" and the fast paced "Red Light Fever" remind me of P.O.D. at their best, while the pounding "Up, Down" is like a heavier version of JUDAS PRIEST.

Power metal enthusiasts need look no further than "Warning Action!" (first featured on the "Heavy Metal Force" compilation), my particular fave track where the band excel to the max - brilliant stuff!

Japan is renowned for producing its guitar heroes and Hiroya Fukuda(!) is no exception, unleashing amazing solo after solo with lightning precision. Listen in particular to "Turn Back To The Night" and "Blind City" where I detect touches of Dave Meneketti about his playing.

The talented Mr. Fukuda is also responsible for some highly imaginative riffing. re - "Steeler" and the aforementioned "Blind City".

Generally the production from Masa Itoh is excellent, although the drumming sounds a little muted on a couple of numbers, namely "Racin' Rock" and "Star Formation". But this apart, "Anthem" is a killer debut and the band certainly deserve as much Western World success as LOUDNESS if not more. Right now an English version is being recorded for overseas release, but if you can't wait, then the album will be out on Japanese import on 21st July.

BERNARD DOE

LYNN ALLEN

We Laugh At You
(Loud Records)



This is Illinois' LYNN ALLEN's second vinyl outing the first being an obscure EP. Guess what? It's melodic rock again but I never get bored with this type of music and LYNN ALLEN's up there with the STREETS, SUGARCREEKS and DAY ONE'S of this world. Check out the intro to "Runaway" (telephone conversation) "Hello John Lincoln Institution For The Criminally Insane, can I help you? No, I'm sorry Mr Pieffer escaped this afternoon but we do expect to get him back into captivity sometime soon. Thank you. Alright, goodbye". Pretty neat intro huh. The Peiffer in question is one Billy Peiffer guitarist/vocalist and leader of the band.

"Runaway" is side one's real killer cut, such spine class reminiscent of early HARLEQUIN days. "Domino" is very JOURNEY like but not as boring. "She's Looking At Me" intro's BON JOVI style and continues that way bringing side one to a

crunching halt.

All the numbers on side two are well above average but "Take It Like A Man" stands out as the more original out of the four cuts.

The band were recently in London to get record deals, and brought over an equally impressive new set of demos, so a FORCES interview is imminent.

KELV HELLRAZER

EPSYLON

Epsilon
(Devil's Records)



Devil's Records may have been responsible for unleashing the promising French power metallist's KILLERS and ADX (see reviews MF11) but seem to have come up with a dud-un here.

Even after a poor opening number in "Le Talisman" things only go downhill, not being helped by a ridiculously weak production.

There are hints of IRON MAIDEN in the likes of "Train De Vie" and "Rock'n' Roll", whilst the band show a more commercial approach on "Fini" but I'm afraid these french fries are nothing more than burnt offerings.

BERNARD DOE

VARIOUS ARTISTS

Metal Attack Volume One
(Noise Compilation)



I think Charly Rinne has a bit of a nerve using the same name as the popular French metal mag for his Metal Hammer spin-off. This is the compilation put together by Noise to a) make people aware of this new magazine, and b) make a bit of extra cash by using unreleased CELTIC FROST and GRAVEDIGGER tracks to entice people to buy it. Very sneaky eh?

Having said that the choice of material is very, very good but is it any wonder when you've got HELLOWEEN on the album? Or how about SINNER? HELLOWEEN have been raved about before in these pages. How much longer must we wait for a feature on 'em?! The track used here is a remixed version of "Murderer" from their mini-LP. Fuckin' brilliant, unreal, total death, check it out etc etc. SINNER, by the way, have the ace title track from the "Danger Zone" album on offer.

Competing hotly you'll find an intense "Diabolic Force" from those pyrotechnic mothers RUNNING WILD, taken from their "Gates Of



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Purgatory" LP; the neck-breaking "Scavengers Daughter" from WARRANT's death defying mini-LP, and the aforementioned GRAVEDIGGER/CELTIC FROST stuff.

GRAVEDIGGER's material comes from tracks left off the "Witch Hunter" album. "Shine One" could, musically, be SLAYER if you took off Chris Boltendahl's vocals, whilst, "Tears Of Blood" is vintage GRAVEDIGGER just like Mutti used to like!

As far as CELTIC FROST are concerned (or not as the case may be) well, you're all well aware of my feelings about HELLHAMMER. To be fair Tom Warrior and pals do know how to play now (I think) and one day they might just come up with a classic song and not just classically bad as was the case with the HELLHAMMER gem "Maniac".

The two tracks here, surprisingly well produced, were unreleased at the time but I now believe you can get 'em on the bands new mini-LP. I may not be that partial to CELTIC FROST but I know there are thousands who are. Who can argue with that?

DAVE REYNOLDS

RAW POWER

Screams From The Gutter (Toxic Shock)

Punk Thrash Italian style. RAW POWER are already a popular act with the West Coast hardcore brigade and have just completed an extensive USA/Canadian tour, hence this revamped American release.

"Screams From The Gutter" contains no less than seventeen of the fastest, most intense, wall crushing forms of music you're likely to hear. Many metal fans will hate it because of the over the top punk vocal performance from Mauro (listen in particular to "Police, Police" - unreal!) but this is more than compensated for by the awesome riffing and lightning lead work of Davide who for me is the star of the show and gives this album the metal appeal.

Standout tracks for me are "State Oppression", "A Certain Kind Of Killer", "Raw Power" and "Nihilist". I do find some of the tracks rather too short ("Bastard" and "Power") so much so that unless you're giving the album your upmost attention, then you find you've actually missed a couple of numbers! But generally, the album is packed

with deathcore thrashers and can probably best be described as like having SLAYER playing live in your own living room. Totally awesome!

BERNARD DOE

MOTLEY CRUE

Theatre Of Pain (Elektra)

Thrash fans will hate it, Glam fans will love it and your sisters will buy it. There's no doubt this record will sell millions despite the fact many people I've spoken to are disappointed with it, being that they expected it to be much heavier.

Bernard, I say it here and now, hates it (Too right! - Ed.); especially the "wimpy" production job. Personally I consider it to be better than previous output being that it's, dare I say it, more mature in every department and, well, I just like it OK? There's still a distinct metal flavour especially on "Tonight" and "Louder Than Hell" (previously known as "Hotter Than Hell") but if you consider CRUE to be passe now then why not, especially all you girls, check out the ultimate stackheel's 'n' greasepaint mob in the form of a band called RIPPER. I think you'll find them cute.....

DAVE REYNOLDS

MAKE-UP

Born To Be Hard (Columbia - Jap Import)

This is MAKE-UP's third album and the band continue to deliver their wimpish, American orientated commercial rock.

Songs like "Rainy Road" and "Find Out" will no doubt appeal to WHITE SISTER/JOURNEY fans, while the soppy ballads, "Black Eyes" and "Just My Heart" have a kind of FOREIGNER feel about them.

"Get Up! Wake Up! Make Up!" and "Come On Everybody Tonight" are a little more up-tempoed, in the pop metal vein - the latter with its predictable "Lock'n'Loll" singalong - but I'm afraid these, along with the remaining numbers "1985", "Mr. Tokyo" and "She Lied", do absolutely nothing for me and I'm sure even AOR fans will find everything a little second rate.

BERNARD DOE

SINGLES & E.P.'S

PRETTY MAIDS

Red, Hot And Heavy 12" EP (CBS Records)

"Red, Hot And Disco" more like. Somebody at CBS has turned this classic album track into a seven minute disco plod, totally overproduced and guaranteed to do the band more harm than good. I know the band are unhappy with this release but it's just as well we don't give star ratings for singles or EP's as it would have been embarrassing for all parties concerned!

The 'B' side contains two respectable versions of "Children Of Tomorrow" and "Waitin' For The Time".

BERNARD DOE

VULCAIN

La Dame De Fer EP (Devils Records)

At the beginning of their career VULCAIN were known as the 'French MOTORHEAD'. But they eventually shook off that tag and are now one of their countries top metal acts.

To these ears there are still distinctive touches of MOTORHEAD about their music, especially on "Emmene Le!". "La Dame De Fer" offers some melody while still remaining fast and aggressive and reminds me somewhat of the MOTORS.

Unfortunately side two is a little disappointing with both "Le Fils De Lucifer" and "Reprends Ta Place" being more mundane and less adventurous. Still the EP is worth checking out if you liked the bands "Rock'n'Roll Secours" album.

BERNARD DOE

IMPALER

Rise Of The Mutants EP (Important Records)

Glam Rock meets Thrash Metal? A strange combination but that's the only way I can think to describe this four track EP.

Generally the music's not bad with the catchy "Shock Rock" and the fast'n'heavy "Heaven's Force" being the best numbers. But what kind of audience will IMPALER attract? Surely Glam Rockers will find the band far too heavy and aggressive while thrashers will certainly hate the glam overtones. A bit like METAL FORCES eh?

BERNARD DOE

FLEMING HELL! CROSSFIRE

Belgium's CROSSFIRE Visit London - METAL FORCES Reports The Damage

As reported by our highly respected editor; the man who knows the best thrash; who picks the pearls out of the mire; the letters you've been sending to us for a good few months now leave us in no doubt that it's metal of the death variety that you want to read about the most. We naturally pride ourselves on the coverage we give to a form of metal we've championed all along, and which led to a serious re-think from other 'noted' publications. (s'funny how SLAYER have become respectable ain't it?!!)

I sincerely hope we give you value for money in this respect, but as Bernard stated in that editorial in MF8 we've never intended to be biased more towards the 'speed kills' fraternity; which is why you get people like Kelt or myself interviewing "wimp-outs" such as HELIX, FRANK DIMINO, SHY or KROKUS!

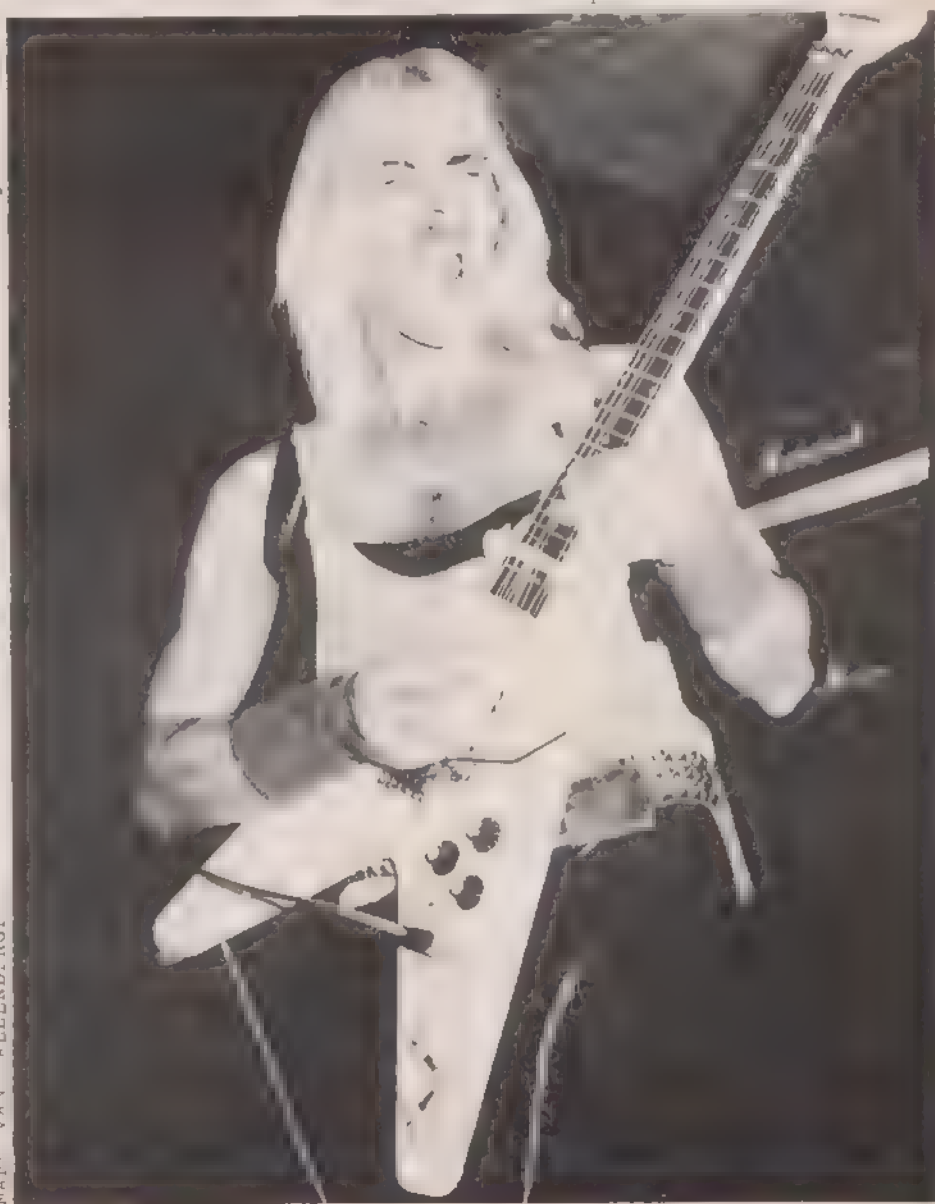
Why do we insist on covering other aspects of HM/HR when all you want is death, death and more death? Well let's just say that from my point of view I enjoy talking to, and listening to all aspects and artists of the metal sphere, whether it be Gregg Giffria (are you reading this MCA?!!) or LIVING DEATH. I also express the view that you can't have too much of a good thing all the time thrashers! But on a serious note, MF will NEVER wimp out. You will NEVER read articles on DURAN DURAN or PRINCE in this magazine. (Not unless you find we've been taken over by SMASH HITS or my girlfriends sister has taken control of the ship! Hi Stephy!)

So we come to CROSSFIRE, one of Mausoleum's earliest signings and the people responsible for the much

lauded (by the underground magazine) "See You In Hell" and "Second Attack" albums. The band recently ventured across the Channel for the first time, for two London dates. The scene of the MF get-together with the lads was at the first show, a Shades promoted gig at The Wellington in Shepherds Bush, West London; where Bernard and myself

were ushered into the bands "dressing room" upstairs. This resembled a seely toilet where you'd be more likely to find some idiot free-basing cocaine or an ageing whore entertaining on a wet and soiled mattress in the corner (there was something resembling a mattress on the floor.....). In short it was disgusting, to be more precise about it, the

Pic Wayne Youngman



MARC VAN CAELEBERG

place was the pits!

Still the band laughed it off and seemed pleased that at least somebody was interested enough in them to merit doing an interview. So let's start from the absolute beginning. Let's find out the history of the band. Only vocalist Peter De Wint and guitarist Marc Van Caelenberge - had a good enough understanding of English so it was obvious that these two would do the talking. Peter is actually quite fluent in our language but felt an idiot whenever he made the odd mistake and apologised. Don't worry about it mate!

The current line-up of CROSSFIRE consists of Van Caelenberge, De Wint plus rhythm guitarist Rudy Van De Sijpe, bassist Patrick Van Londerzele and drummer Chris de Brauer who is the most recent addition to the group. But as Peter says, they were a quartet to begin with. "Well CROSSFIRE started in 1980 out of a punk rock band called THE UNION DOLLS who were led by Marc, when they split up Marc started CROSSFIRE because he had always liked to play more heavy metal style music. I played drums and sang at the time."

It wasn't until they found Chris that Peter gave up the drums, he felt he couldn't combine the two, which makes CROSSFIRE a much better live band visually. I wish someone would tell EXCITER that! (Just a pity Dan Beehler's an excellent vocalist and drummer

isn't it?)

It's now long forgotten history that original guitarist Nero Neerinx left the band and subsequently got imprisoned for murdering a policeman (possibly documented in the CROSSFIRE song "Killing A Cop" which to many sounds like PRIEST's "You Don't Have To Be Old To Be Wise"), but the rest of the story is best left untold - Rudy replaced him and fills out the sound as a perfect aide to Marc's guitar tricks. Actually watching Rudy on stage reminded Bernard and I of STEELER bassist Volker Krawczak, affectionately known as "The Dustman" here at MF for some unknown reason.....

Anyway CROSSFIRE were one of the first Belgian metal bands to get international recognition alongside KILLER and ACID, following the release of their debut album "See You In Hell" on Mausoleum in 1983 and they've just come up trumps again with "Second Attack". "It's doing well here in England" says Peter proudly "In America I don't really know of any exact figures but it's naturally selling fast in Germany, Belgium and Holland." And why were they in England doing just two shows? "Let's just called it a favour to Mausoleum" answers the man somewhat mysteriously; but producer and chaperone Jos Kloek quickly remarks "It's always good for a band to be out playing live and getting the promotion they need and also it's good for the kids who wanna see the band too".

But do they play pub gigs in Europe? "No this is the first time we've ever had to play in such a small place. On the Continent we've always played in large halls". Marc: "We're here because we sell albums in England and it's a start for us, so no problem." Peter: "In Germany we usually play places as big as Hammersmith Odeon." What about in Belgium? Marc: "It costs a lot of money to put on concerts in Belgium and Brussels is the only city the big groups play. We've supported ACCEPT and IRON MAIDEN, but many bands don't want to play in Belgium because they're unhappy with the stages or something else y'know?" It seems many Belgian metal fans have to travel to the neighbouring metal centres in Holland, Germany and France if they wanna go apeshit over the big noises ... and they do! Belgian HM concert goers are fuckin' crazy psycho's!!

As far as the immediate future goes the band will be playing a few festivals around Europe, notably some shows in Italy and then there are plans to put out a mini-LP featuring two live tracks of the two cuts previously to be found on the Rave-On/Aardschok compilation "Metal Clogs" when Nero was with the group - then there's the third album which they're currently working on. Will it be in the same vein as the last two? Marc wouldn't say as he wants it to be a surprise. Why did the second one take so long? Marc: "We had many problems, we hoped to have it out at Christmas but there are so many bands with Mausoleum it does take a lot of time. We also had a lot of technical problems as well as the pressing company going bankrupt! A lawyer (we think he means reciever - Ed) was in charge and we had 8,000 records there already pressed but nobody could get hold of them, that was one reason for the delay."

But now it's out "Second Attack" is, as they say, doing well and if the reaction of Jason L. and associates to the bands music is anything to go by CROSSFIRE should be picking up more fans every time they play live, for despite PA problems we felt they were a really tight knit, classy thrash unit who deserve a good deal more support and exposure. As the band say... "BEWARE Of Our THIRD Attack!!"

DAVE REYNOLDS and Bernard Doe



Pic Wayne Youngman

PETER DE WINT



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Megadeth

LOVE IT TO DEATH

BERNARD DOE Speaks To DAVE MUSTAINE About Life After Metallica

Ever since he parted company with METALLICA and put together MEGADETH, Dave Mustaine has become a much acclaimed figure on the underground metal scene, and indeed the first MEGADETH demo was voted No. 1 in our end of year readers poll for 1984. However for many people, including myself, the initial reaction to MEGADETH's debut vinyl offering, "Killing Is My Business.... And Business Is Good!", was one of disappointment - lacking the punch, production wise, of many recent metal releases. But more on the album later.

Now a MEGADETH feature has been somewhat long in coming in METAL FORCES, but it hasn't been for not trying. Indeed the latest attempt very nearly fell through too. You see Dave Mustaine had apparently locked himself out of his Californian hotel room unable to reach my initial call, and having failed to respond to numerous messages left with the receptionist I was just about prepared to forget the whole thing. But thanks to the efforts of Linda at Music For Nations the interview eventually took place a few days later.

As it's the first time we've spoken to Dave I decided to begin by asking him about the split with METALLICA? "It was more or less an attitude problem, not ability. We've tried to patch things up but there's still certain vibes there. It's not something I really want to go in a I still like the guys and I don't want to hurt their success by putting them down or try and make myself look better.

"Basically, when they told me to leave, I packed in about 20 seconds and I was gone." Upset? "Oh no, I wasn't upset at all as I wanted to start a solo project during the middle of METALLICA anyway.

"In the past we had

tried to kick both Lars (Ulrich) and James (Hetfield) out the band. Lars started to cry because he didn't want to leave and we gave James a second chance because he wasn't singing too well at the time. But I really care about the guys a lot. They're doing really well and I'm getting money out of this so why should I put them down and hurt my bank roll?"

So what did you do immediately after you left METALLICA? "Well at first I didn't really know what I wanted to do. I wasn't really sure if I wanted to stay the same style as METALLICA, play harder stuff or just join another band that was bigger than METALLICA at the time - maybe a major label band."

When you formed MEGADETH didn't you have difficulty in finding a line-up? "Yeah, we had a real hard time. I found the bass player Dave Ellefson immediately - he's a fuckin' raging bass player who will definately start getting in all the polls as soon as people can spell his name right!

"We went through about 15 drummers, because we wanted someone who could comprehend the changes in the music as I wanted the music to gradually climax. I wanted every song to build to a high point. But we just couldn't find a drummer who could mix-up a beat. They could do the same beat slower or faster but they couldn't do a different beat. So it took us almost a year to find Gar Samuelson and he used to be a Jazz drummer. He's still coming around as far as speed and everything but the breaks and mixing it up - as you can hear on the album - he plays real different.

"We didn't really get a chance of getting a good guitar player in the beginn-

ing because we wanted to go out and play right away, so we had Kerry King from SLAYER stand in while we kept looking for someone but we couldn't find anything.

"We tried it out as a three-piece while we were breaking in the new drummer and we finally found Chris Poland, and he did session-work with us and of course he is the guitarist on the album. But we've now got a permanent guitar player called Mike Albert. He's been playing the guitar for over sixteen years and used to play with CAPTAIN BEEFHEART. He plays a little like Steve Vai from ALCA-TRAZZ and is really good. By the way Mike Albert is the guy that got Eddie Van Halen to use a wang bar and that's the honest truth. You see Mike and Eddie used to live real close and used to go to gigs together and one day he told Eddie to get rid of his black Les Paul and get himself a Strat and put a fuckin' tremelo arm on it, and he did and now he's a millionaire!"

What made you become the band's vocalist? "Well we couldn't find a singer, so I decided about a year and a half ago to do the singing myself because at least we could get going until we found someone."

The vocals on the album are quite impressive, did you ever contemplate singing in METALLICA? "Yeah, Lars asked me that one day when we were driving to rehearsals. I was singing along to one of our tapes and Lars said 'Man, fuck you'd be a great frontman, have you ever thought about singing?' and this kinda shit. I said 'yeah, maybe' but that's about as far as it went because I kept thinking that this was trying to be too starstruck. I mean I didn't want to be a big lead guitar player,

frontman, singer, this, that and everything under the sun."

You mentioned Kerry King earlier, isn't it true you wanted Kerry to become a permanent member of the band? "A long time ago we did, but the members of MEGADETH like to get close to our fans. They buy us a drink, we buy them a drink. We smoke a little pot together or do whatever together. But Kerry doesn't get high at all and we'd have promo photos with the three of us crawling, stumbling around with pints of ale in our hands and Kerry would be sitting there with a bottle of coke or something! It would just mis-match the whole image of the band a little bit. Also we play a lot of advance stuff and Kerry well, he can play the fuck out of a guitar but I think he likes playing the SLAYER stuff a little better.

How much gigging has MEGADETH done? "We started about two years ago and we've played in San Francisco, a couple of times in New York and a place called San Diego in Southern California. All the shows went pretty well until we tried to do it as a three-piece and that wasn't really what we wanted because when it went into the lead breaks and stuff, the bottom kind of dropped out. We also had management problems at the time, and he convinced us that we didn't need a great wall of cabinets and another guitar player. Anyway we quickly got rid of him and went back to our original format of being a four-piece."

How did the album deal with Combat Records come about? "I looked at a bunch of labels - Megaforce, Neat, Shrapnel etc - but they didn't really thrill me too much. They'd say what they'd do and I'd ask about tour support and what their budget was, and really everything was a pittance compared to what we needed to come up with an album that was expected to be as good as METALLICA - not necessarily the same but as good - and we needed the budget to compete with that. As it was we fired the producer of the album half way through the recording because it wasn't turning out right and we wrapped up the rest of the album on 4,000 dollars. So I definitely think our next album will be far better than this one."

So you're not happy with the album? "Oh no, we're happy with it for what we put into it. With the producer we had, we started the album up and it just wasn't metal, it wasn't sounding right, and

the problems we had I got fed up and fired the guy. With the budget we had left we just took over and produced the album ourselves."

As I said earlier, I found "Killing Is My Business....." a little disappointing but once you've got used to the somewhat weak production and accepted that the album wasn't another total thrash'n'bash, "Kill 'em All", or whatever, then you'll find some rather intricate material, proving that MEGADETH are far from a one-man band. Each member gels to produce a fusion of thrash, jazz, power metal and, and.... anyway how would Dave describe MEGADETH's music? "Well we're trying to play something that's really working the fuck up out of a guitar. Something that you can headbang to and that could also be used as a real nerve racking soundtrack where you can picture what's going on. I try to portray a whole painting behind the lyrics."

Have you consciously kept away from the Black Metal, Satanic image? "Yeah, well for one thing, someone who's into Satan doesn't go prof-

essing it about and start bragging and trying to explain it. That's one of the secrets about being a magician; you don't go telling everyone your secrets.

"I do know a lot about the black side of the shit, it interests me and I like reading about it, but I don't really want to practice it. It takes years to get good, and once your good you're hooked and in trouble.

"I mean it's great to thrash and pound, cut yourself up, scream and have fun. But you don't have to take out a pagan attitude. Why support the Devil? He's already there. I'd rather just fuckin' thrash and be a metallist and listen to whatever I want to than be forced to listen to one style of music."

What do you listen to? "I listen to everything; black metal, speed metal, I even fuckin' listen to violinists and stuff. Paganini is a violinist - I think he's from the 17th Century - who smokes over any band or instrumentalist alive right now. They can't even find anyone to play his music; that's how good



DAVE MUSTAINE

he was and that's the sort of stuff I'd rather promote instead of sitting there trying to be real tough."

Going back to the album, what made you include "Mechanix"? (METALLICA of course covered this on their "Kill 'em All" album and retitled it "Four Horseman"). "That was just to straighten METALLICA up. They're saying I'm a drunk and I can't play. It's real funny how Kirk Hammett ripped off every fuckin' lead break I'd played on that "No Life 'til Leather" tape and he got voted number one guitarist in your magazine. It's also funny how they play their second album and they've still got a reel to reel of all my riffs and stuff - God knows when they're gonna stop writing the songs that I originally wrote. I think that when METALLICA have got all their gold and platinum records, they should have the decency to say 'here send one to Dave too, 'cos he wrote all the shit and Kirk played everyone of his solo's'.

"On "Ride The Lightning", Dave Marsh, who used to be Lars' drum roadie, told me that they had Kirk going over old practice tapes and Cliff (Burton) was even writing lead solos. How can

people vote this guy number one guitar player when he's ripped me off? If anyone should have been voted number one it should have been me. Not that I'm jealous (!), I mean I'm glad they're doing well as I'm getting paid for it - well one of these days!"

How about the inclusion of "These Boots" on the album. That was rather a strange choice for a cover song? "Well everyone's doing copies but instead of going back five years of even fifteen years, why not dig back twenty five years to the sixties when things were real corny with horn sections and take something like that and re-construct the lyrics so they're a little nastier. We really done it so bands out there know that you can pull this shit off.

"It's also easier for the young metallist to have their parents accept something; like "Hey Mom! Hey Dad! Look they've even got one of your songs on here!" and they're gonna go "No, I can't believe it". Of course they'll hate it once they read the lyrics!"

What about your own material. Have you got any new songs for the next album yet? "Yeah, we have two new tunes

"Black Friday" and "Bad Omen" that are a total blur - much faster than "Rattlehead"."

Of course the next MEGADETH album is still some way off. But the bands immediate plans include some extensive touring. As I speak the band are on a US/Canadian tour with EXCITER and should be coming over to Europe in August.

Incidentally, the European release of "Killing Is My Business..." doesn't have the lyric/picture inner sleeve that the US pressing has. So anyone interested in obtaining a lyric sheet and/or details of merchandising and fan-club information should write to:- MEGADETH H.Q. P.O.Box 291593, Los Angeles, CA 90029, USA.

Despite the guys reputation of being abusive and difficult to interview (many statements of which have been totally unfounded) I must say I found Dave Mustaine pretty much down to earth and a pleasure to talk to. I leave you with Dave's message to all readers. "Yeah, I just want to thank the readers of METAL FORCES for voting us the best new demo and I hope they all enjoyed the album." Number one guitarist next year Dave?

FANZINE CORNER

Anyone who wishes to subscribe their 4th magazine fanzine in METAL FORCES should send a sample copy along with details of contacting the publisher.

Please keep it secret! to: METAL FORCES, 17 Longshore Lane Chells, Stevenage, Herts., SG2 2PT, ENGLAND. POSTAL: we cannot subscribe magazines without first seeing a sample copy. This avoids printing letters from people with ideas that fanzines who are hoping to cash in on albums, demo tapes and other such freebies. So be warned!!!

Bands please note that all of the fanzines featured on this page are looking for demos and vinyl to reviews. So if you want to give more exposure to your band then send material, photo, biography to any of the addresses listed.

METALLO, the Italian 4th magazine with a circulation of 3,000 copies, has a new issue out. It features Warlord, Sin, Manowar, Manilla Road, Rough Cutt, Queensryche, Slayer, Venom, Warlock, Warriors, Italian band, Motley Crue, Teeze etc. Send \$2 or £1.50 - If you also want the first issue send \$3 or £2.50 - All those that write could win a METALLO t-shirt. METALLO c/o Alessandro Massara, Via Monte Di Dio 9, 80132, Napoli, ITALY. We need adverts for our third issue. We have very cheap rates

Norway's heaviest metal mag can now be yours. SLAYER No. 1 with Hallows eve, Picture, Running Wild, Oz, Slayer, Grave Digger and much much more. SLAYER No. II with Bathory, Metallica, Omen, Destruction, Hrax, Carnivore, Megadeth, interviews with Slayer, Cities and Savatage. Slayer poster and much much more. SLAYER No. III will be out late summer with Venom, Hexx, Mefisto, Exciter, Anthrax, Trauma, Living Death, Atlatl, Exxplorer, Savage Grace, Liege Lord, Artch (Norway's Metal Merchants No 1), Trauma, Vice, Maglight, Possessed and many more. You can buy them for \$2 £1.50 BPM or all three for \$5 £2.50/15DM. Send to: SLAYER Magazine, STM Kolstadveien 29, 1700 Larpsborg, NORWAY.

PHOENIX MILITIA - The link between metal and hardcore. Issue 1 out now features: Venom, Maglight, Hell's Belles, Death metal round-up, Warfare, Broken Bones, Van Damme, Concrete Cox and much more... To get a copy write now and send 40p UK £1.00 (elsewhere) to: 45 Kelsall Ave., Eastham, Wirral, Merseyside, LG 92X, ENGLAND.

RA.F.F.P issue No. 4 features exclusive Aerosmith interview, Court 5, Boris Of The New Chapter, Jetco, and lots more. Send \$2.00 and 2 IRC's per issue to: RA.F.F.P, c/o Sara Crinker, 205 1st St, San Francisco, CA 94103, USA.

METALLIC BEAST - Danish underground fanzine No. 2 out now! with Mera Mantia, Laaz Rockit, Iron Angel, Hrax, Tyrant, Mox Vix, Deathslayer, Destruction, Overkill, Medieval, Cirin, Dorian Gray and more! To order send £2.00 or \$2.00. We now have ads on tape-traders, fanzines, penfriends, fan club merchandise etc. We're looking for all new up and coming band to feature send demo/photo/bio/logo to: METALLIC BEAST c/o Peter Markham, Sengraven 25, 2000 Roskilde, DENMARK.

We and my four friends are the 'Heavy Team' in one and only real HM fanzine in Brasil - ROCK BRIGADE. We are very interested in everything about bands as demo/single/record/pics, bio, etc for review in our fanzine. Please write to: ROCK BRIGADE c/o Eduardo S Bonadia, Caixa Postal 15094, Cambuci, RP SP, CEP 01538, BRASIL (arriving This is our one and only official address).

MAPSHALL STACK is the world's only Total Metal Magazine. Issue No. 1 has just been unleashed, featuring exclusive interviews with: Grim Reaper, Whiteflash, Flaxix, Atomkraft, Tyrant, Liege Lord and Battleaxe plus a 'free badge'! Send £1.50 cash or cheque we pay the postage! To: Joe Criggs, 2 The Charter Rd, Woodford Green, Essex, IG8 9RD, ENGLAND. Also available at Shades of London.

NOT POLITICALLY CORRECT is a free fan magazine focusing on hardcore punk and power trash speed metal. Bands should send B/W photo, bios, demos, etc for upcoming issues. Issue 1 features face and Accused interviews, 11 reviews and opinions. Issue 2 features 11 and Black Flag interviews over 100 record reviews and lots more. Send 45 cents US or 75 (cents) overseas per issue to cover postage to: NOT POLITICALLY CORRECT c/o Bill Martinson, 6020 Marley Avenue, Ferndale, MI 48248, USA.

HARDOS Mag, a French 14-page HM magazine written in French, the 7th issue is now out featuring articles and interviews about Charter, Mania, Killers, AIX, Motorcross, Nowrite and Rattleless. It costs 10Fr (Europe) and 15 Frs (overseas) send checks and money orders payable to Ludovic Gluzko c/o - HARDOS MAG c/o Ludovic Gluzko, 13 Rue Raoul Auouard, 67400 Benfontaine, FRANCE.

RAISE THE DEAD - The German Power Holocaust! Issue 1 is now out. Features interviews with Venom, Voi Vod, Lemmy, Metallica, Exciter and more. Story and thrashing pics from Nasty Savage, Overkill(US) Destruction, Steel Assassin and much, much, more. Send \$2.00 or 5DM(shine) incl. Postage & Packing to: Timo Weber, Gerhart-Hauptm-Ring 63, 6000 Frankfurt/Main 50, WEST GERMANY.

Man Or Myth?

DAVE REYNOLDS MEETS

YNGWIE MALMSTEEN

So where does one begin? Getting the directive to interview the 21-year-old enigma didn't exactly thrill me as much as it would many of the people converted by the Swede's axe antics but even I'll admit there's something about this guy that cannot be ignored.

It's become a regular item on the agenda here at MF, that BIG question to which we all seem to be unsure of the answer. Is this man GOD?! Well let's put things in perspective shall we? Not wishing to sound like Billy Graham or prove that listening to STRYPER, THE RESURRECTION BAND or PETRA screws up the mind, I honestly feel that no human being can be regarded as a 'God' of any sort. Ritchie Blackmore isn't, Eddie Van Halen isn't..... OK, OK, I did once write in a TKO review that, quote, "Brad Sinsal is God" but to tell you the truth I was taking the piss, as blasphemous as this was, because Sinsal hasn't really known the difference between his right arm from his left so far as knowing where he's taking his band for years.

Yngwie Malmsteen's "status" can be attributed to the underground metal press coverage of his activities; Ron Quintana of "Metal Mania" fame along with Mike Varney being the prime movers in "hyping" the talent of this man.

I've always been sceptical about Malmsteen's stardom (for want of a better word). I admire his talent, I wish I had it, but he's always struck me as being too hung up on Blackmore not

Pic Rock Index



only in influences musically but also manner and image. I've never been a fan of Blackmore (much to the chagrin of those I know who are) and I can't say I've taken a great deal of notice of Yngwie either. In actual fact I tend to go more for the music a BAND makes rather than individual performances. The only musician I can rightly say I could listen to playing on his own all day would be Gregg Giuffria, but I digress.

Given the amount of stories about the man's ego and arrogant behaviour I was in the position of not being particularly interested in talking to him. I expected him to behave like a wanker but came out a little surprised. Yngwie does talk bluntly but I got the impression that this is more due to the way he's learnt English and the fact that, like most Swedes, he's far more mature than his age suggests.

Malmsteen's history of course goes back to the late seventies/early eighties when he was becoming known as hot property with the first incarnation of RISING FORCE. The band's demo's became popular with the underground demo traders and according to an article I'd read by Stefan Rooyackers in AARDSCHOK (let's give credit where it's due eh?! they recorded a single "You're Going To Break Them All"/"Horizons" for CBS which was never released. I asked Yngwie why.

"We didn't really have a deal with CBS, they were just very interested. This particular producer working exclusively for CBS liked my playing but he wanted me to do some commercial stuff, so I wrote a couple of commercial songs which were supposed to be released but he called me up afterwards and said he thought we should re-record the vocals in Swedish so it would sell more, but I didn't want to do that."

And so it's history that Mike Varney becomes interested in Yngwie enough to get him over to the States whereby he promptly joins Ron Keel's STEELER, then ALCATRAZZ, and in July last year split to reform RISING FORCE in which he's currently engaged in a World Tour which brought him to London for a "Showcase" gig at The Marquee. "I joined ALCATRAZZ to leave ALCATRAZZ so to speak. When I teamed up with Graham Bonnett he didn't

have one song written and they didn't have any real idea of what they wanted to do. I wrote all the songs in three weeks, I wrote all the music including the melody lines and I don't really give a shit if Graham doesn't want to admit that, even though I didn't get the credit for it but the keyboard player (Jimmy Waldo, ex-NEW ENGLAND/Vinnie Cusano's WARRIOR) did for things he didn't write. It was a very bad situation from the beginning, I didn't really get any kind of respect for what I did. I know I am a lot more of a skilled and experienced musician and composer than all of them put together, but they call me things like I'm a little kid and stuff and I got very frustrated with that."

Does it worry you about what Graham & Co, or Ron Keel for that matter (remember Yngwie's classic remark about him in MF3?!) are saying about you now? "It doesn't really bother me. I don't want to know what Graham says because I don't think it matters. I didn't care what he thought when I was in the band and I definitely don't care what he's saying about me now. Bonnett and Keel couldn't get along with me and I couldn't get along with them. People might have the opinion that I'm just a stuck-up idiot, which is totally wrong because I'm a very precise person, I know exactly what I want and I don't fuck about y'know?"

So you in fact used STEELER and ALCATRAZZ all along to get to where you are now? "Exactly, they were just stepping stones. When I moved to America that was my plan all along."

How do you feel about being voted in magazine polls as one of the top guitarists? "It's very flattering, however it doesn't change my outlook or anything else. I'm exposed to a lot of flattering things all the time. The thing is when I was a nobody and nobody gave a shit about what I was doing I was still exactly the same as I am now. I knew exactly what I wanted and I would get it, and I didn't give a shit what it took. People get very pissed off about me but I'm not stuck up that I walk around

thinking I'm so fucking cool y'know."

Despite Yngwie's constant confrontations with Ron Keel in STEELER, he did seem to get along with fellow band members Rik Fox (now SIN) and Mark Edwards. Was that why he produced the 3RD STAGE ALERT mini-LP because Edwards is currently the drummer? "No, it wasn't at all, it was because the rhythm guitarist is the guy who cleans my swimming pool and he's a very good friend of mine!! Rik Fox is more or less a nice guy, but we think differently. I don't personally have anything against Rik or Mark or in fact anybody including Graham, but have you ever tried working with a 36-year-old alcoholic, epileptic person?! It tends to be frustrating!"

With the split from ALCATRAZZ complete, Yngwie's doing exactly what he's wanted to do all along, and that's play some of the most self-indulgent rock music you're ever likely to hear since the days of ELP or YES. The question of whether the man plays for himself, rather than the people who buy his records ("Yngwie Malmsteen's 'RISING FORCE' album is still selling, better than ever thanks to a European release) did cross my mind..... "No, not at all, that's not true at all. I improvise, everything I do is spontaneous. Every night I go on stage I play something different in my intro's and guitar solo's, I incorporate all sorts of shit. If I go on stage and the audience is really into it I play very well, but if the audience isn't into it I play kind of Auto-pilot or something. I definitely play for the people but that doesn't mean I prostitute myself by going trendy and playing the kind of stuff record companies want me to play. If I want to be like everyone else and write a BON JOVI song I could do it but I want to play stuff that I feel good with."

Yngwie obviously didn't feel good with the STEELER album. If you listen to it you can tell that it sounds wrong, the guitar playing sounds out of place, it's like telling a mechanic with a Grand Prix racing team how to put a lawn mower together... Keel seemed to be instructing Malmsteen how to play heavy metal riffs and Yngwie wasn't having it. Now of course

no-one can tell him what to do.

"I don't like playing Ron Keel's music, or preferably anybody else's. I feel very much like a painter or something. A painter doesn't want to paint somebody else's picture and he doesn't want to paint half a picture and let someone finish it. I want to compose, arrange and produce the music and that's why it's so nice to be in the situation I'm in right now."

But Yngwie doesn't really like the strain of constant touring it seems "We just came back from a Japanese tour and did a short American tour followed by this European tour. After this we have a long, three month American tour coming up and I have three days off, but I have to do in-store appearances, five interviews a day and stuff, so I'm constantly working and as far as I know it'll be just touring until October."

So do you prefer recording in a studio to playing live? "No, musically I love both, but touring you get so much bullshit all the time it just drives me crazy. I didn't start playing guitar

to do interviews, I started playing guitar to express myself. I find it difficult to express myself, I find it difficult to express myself with words and I find it frustrating, so much sometimes that I'll tell people to fuck off y'know? The whole mentality of doing tours is kinda crazy!"

This statement probably sums up Yngwie more than anything else in this interview and is an indicator as to why people regard him as a hot headed asshole. It's ironic then that the man should spend thirty five minutes talking to me and representative from "Guitarist", "Metal Attack" and "Heavy Metal Demons". If he was such an arrogant bastard then he could well have told Polydor that he didn't have time to do interviews.

The gig itself was high in musician-ship but very poor in sound quality, possibly a touch too loud for such classy heavy rock. Malmsteen is indeed a very, very good guitar player and maybe does merit his position in the guitar heroes hall of fame, and his partners in crime (ex-SILVER MOUNTAIN men

Jens Johansson-keyboards and Anders Johansson-drums, along with Marc Jacob - bass, Jeff Scott-Soto - vocals) obviously enjoy playing with such a talented personality. Still I did get a bit bored by some of the long winded material and even Malmsteen's number one worshipper on the MF staff Dave Constable remarked as such too (who was it that shouted out before the band came on stage "it's the second coming!" tho'eh Dave?!) and Soto does vocally, bear resemblance to Graham Bonnett and Ronnie James Dio, visually The Brady Bunch's 'Peter' wearing a Paul Stanley poodle cut wig!

RISING FORCE's second album "Marching Out" should be out any day now. Malmsteen reckons it's surprisingly different from the debut album. We shall see. Am I converted? Well I have gained a tremendous amount of respect for Malmsteen in so much as he knows exactly what he wants and nothing will stand in his way but I still wouldn't part with my ANGEL albums for a high quality RISING FORCE Japanese double album of live material at any time!

OUT NOW ON MUSIC FOR NATIONS - MFN 45

THRASHER

FEATURING

CARL CANEDY (THE LODGE) BILLY SHEEHAN (THE LODGE)
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(THE LODGE) RICK CAUDLE (THE LODGE) GARY DRISCOLL
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BEEHLER (THE LODGE) JACK STARR (THE LODGE)
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(THE LODGE) DICKIE PETERSON (THE LODGE)
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and "Eat The Rich" which are more serious than say "American Woman" or "Stay Awake All Night".

That's a long way from the hilarious "Smelly Nelly" or "Mr 69" (all about a man who liked oral sex, only to die from choking on a tampon. C'mon, gimme a break! That's almost as sick as INTENSE MUTILATION) whose lyrics were written by long gone bassist Chris Von Rohr. "I only wrote the music" states Fernando Von Arb. Marc: "Those songs were negative humour. You can't believe the lyrics? Neither can I and I had to sing them! I looked like a red turnip when I was singing them! (eh?!? - Ed). That's why we've changed so many band members. We've evolved. Y'know it's just like some people say that human beings were apes and now we walk straight and wear clothes ha! ha! we haven't had overnight success, we haven't been a number one best seller all over the world. We're still here because we love doing what we do."

The current line-up of Storace (vocals), Von Arb (guitar), Mark Kohler (guitar), Andy Tanas (bass) and Jeff Klaven (drums) is certainly the best I've ever heard or seen, and "The Blitz" is a pretty good record that I feel ashamed at not picking up on earlier.

American magazines I'd read recently had however led me to believe that this album hasn't exactly done the business Stateside in terms of sales and KROKUS were apparently upset. "American magazines are a joke. They turn things round all the time. Did you read the letter I wrote to Creem? Yes? What they did was take part of the interview to make it sound like I was slagging off MOTLEY CRUE and RATT but when it was read in context with the whole thing what I actually said wasn't that at all."

"Actually every album we've released in America has done better on each successive release, and the new direction that we've taken is now being copied by others just as our clothes were in the "Screaming In The Night" video which is great y'know".

KROKUS are getting a great deal of press attention in the 'elite' magazines such as 'Hit Parader' and 'Creem' but the trouble with American mags is that they tend to

give you articles on the same bands month in, month out. I recently bought the latest issues of Creem Metal Close Up and Hit Parader. What do we get? A staple diet of KISS, VAN HALEN, IRON MAIDEN, RATT, MOTLEY CRUE, TWISTED SISTER, KROKUS, WASP and THE SCORPIONS. Oh look, amazingly one has a.... get this..... METALLICA feature! It makes me wonder how they can keep writing about the same bands every month and to be honest, we METAL FORCES people are by no means Shakespeares of metal journalism, but the standard of established rock journalism in the United States (a nation close to my heart both musically and otherwise) is pretty poor and very smart-arse (The NME in living colour?), many writers having no real interest in HM anyway. Hey guys gimme a job will ya?! You want a metal writer, you got one!!

KROKUS are one of the newcomers to the pages of these magazines possibly elevated to that position not only by record sales but also the flashy image along with 'names' such as RATT, MOTLEY CRUE and KISS (who are no longer leaders in HM fashion but mere copyists).

Marc: "We're not a new band like RATT or MOTLEY CRUE, people know us for wearing a variety of clothes."

Fernando interjects: "But for some people we are a new band. Many people think we formed only two years ago y'know? It's like last year VAN HALEN had a hit here with "Jump" and millions of people caught on to them but only for that single, the name came and went for them. Then somebody else comes along like ZZ TOP. People never cared about them and now it's suddenly very 'IN' to have

a ZZ TOP album. Next year it'll be someone else."

It's called pop fashion Fernando, the general record buying/trend following arseholes who dismissed VAN HALEN and ZZ TOP as 'Shitty Heavy Metal' bands suddenly discover hidden aspects to the bands appeal and follow each other like sheep. "Have these bands really been around for so long?" they cry! Shock, horror, gasp! Oh well, and onto WHAM!..... Sickening isn't it?

In America, thanks to consistent touring KROKUS have stamped their name in almost everyones head for good, so now it's back to Europe for a while. However only two dates had been set up; one in London, the other in Basle. The band are free to admit they have no chance of following VAN HALEN and ZZ TOP into the UK teenie boppers lives, Fernando even going so far as to suggest that if they were an American band and not of European origin they really wouldn't come here at all. I admire his honesty. Marc: "The last time we were in London we played Hammersmith Odeon which was good attendance wise but it doesn't pay the bills. The realistic way to look at things if we're going to survive is obviously to play where we meet our costs."

Fernando: "We don't want to make the mistake of doing a big UK tour to half-filled halls. Part of the reason for this London show is because we, ourselves, wanted to play here - it's an expensive hobby! If we didn't play in Switzerland they would probably kill us!! We don't honestly think that these two shows will change anything career-wise



FERNANDO VON ARB and MARC STORACE

for KROKUS."

But haven't you seen the resurgence in Heavy Metal throughout the world? What about the increase in top notch Euro metal acts of the WARLOCK, PRETTY MAIDS ilk? (Just to name two off the top of my head); Fernando: "Y'mean all these bands in the pages of your magazine? I don't really hear too much of it. But in America by just looking at the pictures of some groups I can tell just by the clothes they wear, the leather and studs, they must just all sound the same. I don't really take the time to go into a record store and check that stuff out. They don't appear to show much personality, I mean look at this (pointing at a photo of TYSONDOG) - that's the way JUDAS PRIEST looked five years ago. There must be hundreds of band who look like that now, some of them, the good ones will make it but most of them will disappear next year. It's the nature of this business."

It's sad but true. For instance, cast your minds back to the METAL FOR MUTHAS albums. Out of the 18 bands on the two volumes only IRON MAIDEN went on to gain international mega-stardom. SAMSON were the only other band who created any sort of a stir, whilst only a handful made albums. Trivia freaks may be reminded that Marc Storace actually appears on volume two as the singer for EAZY MONEY with the outstanding cut from that album "Telephone Man". He was in

KROKUS at the same time he recorded that track!

Fernando: "Yeah all those bands are nowhere now apart from IRON MAIDEN, and that's just how it was with the punk scene. The lone survivor of the punk scene is BILLY IDOL who is super commercial now. But there is just no way that all these new bands are going to be successful, only two or three bands are going to make it. KROKUS were lucky, a band who became instantly successful with albums in America (like DEF LEPPARD?) and we were not a band playing clubs for years. (like TWISTED SISTER?) So we had all the problems with people that these bands didn't have anymore because they'd been playing the clubs for years together and kicking out members, all the time gearing themselves towards stardom." (He is talking about TWISTED SISTER!)"

I see the point Fernando's making and one which should quell the uproar caused when 'founder' member Chris Von Rohr was given the boot. There's always such a fuss when a 'name' band sheds members, but as Marc points out, every move has been positive.

"Everyone thought he was the leader, especially in Switzerland. For many people they thought it was the end when Chris went."

So now they've got success in the States and a stable line-up at last, where do they see themselves in the metal spectrum? Marc feels that KROKUS are some-

where between the OZZY/MAIDEN and FOREIGNER/VAN HALEN markets. "One is all studs and leather, spirits and crosses and all that shit, whilst the other is more fun and realistic. We have a 50/50 male/female audience now which is great y'know."

How about the tiresome 'Black Metal' image that's all too present on the HM circuit now? Marc: "I'd rather spend the right with a blonde than with the Devil!!!"

Fernando: "Do they believe it or is it just for the show? I just wonder how seriously they take this stuff. I just hope it's pure fantasy because about 40 or 50 years ago you had the fucking death-heads, SS, people going around dressed in black - that was real! They really killed people, so as long as it's just theatrics I'm not worried but people proved it could be turned into reality, the death-camps and so on. This stuff is too extreme for me. Y'know I'm gonna study this magazine! I'm gonna sit on the shit-house, I always read metal magazines when I sit back on the shit-house and I'm gonna read through this stuff just to put my mind at rest that I know what we're going (in metal musical terms) is better!!"

There is, Fernando, simply no answer to that!!

POSTSCRIPT: Don't be too surprised if Beau Hill is involved with producing KROKUS' next album. I keep my ears open L-D!

HEAVY METAL ONSLAUGHT has finally been unleashed!! 84 full-size pages of unrelenting non-poser thrashing metal! Including interviews with Iron Exodus, Metallica, Exodus, Savage Grace, Iron Angel, Rockit, Steel Assault, Church, Steel Assault, Hallows Eve, Celtic Frost, Deuce, Omen, Armored Saint, Iron Angel, Battleaxe, Whiplash and Metal Blade leader Brian Slagel! Then there are articles on Megadeth, Overkill, Living Death, Possessed, Death Angel, Nuclear Assault, Vice, Macc, Aztec, Evil, Warlock, Running Wild, Mayhem, S.O.B., Shining, Male, Martyr, Fla-Kiss, Malice, Mega Lord and more! This is the real thing! Or yeah! One last thing I almost forgot is the last Savage Battlefield and the 5 page material on the mighty "METAL" magazine, then send \$1.00 to HEAVY METAL, P.O. Box 100, 10000 1st St., San Francisco, CA 94110.

METAL MADNESS Issue No. 4 out now with Mindless Sinner, Metallica, Shining Blade, Eden, Oz, Siren, Voi Vod, Axewitch, Earthshaker, Bitches Sin, Trouble, Bad Iron. 32 pages. Issue No. 3 and No. 1 still available for \$1.50 or \$2.00 (overseas). Issue No. 4 costs \$1.75 (USA) or \$2.25 (overseas) send to: Scott Heller, METAL MADNESS, PO Box 20293, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87154, USA.

DEATH AND DESTRUCTION Fanzone No. 1. Interviews with Clay, Exodus, NYC Mayhem, Overkill, COC, Destruction, Possessed, Nuclear Assault, and Nasty Savage. Plus great pictures, reviews and comics. Send with \$1.50 or \$1 and two stamps to Mike Bevil, 502A W. 12 St., Austin, Texas, 78701.

GRINDER No. 4 out now. Full sized with interviews with Merc, S.O.B., Motorhead, Slayer, Megadeth, Dark Angel, Overkill, Possessed, and many more. No 5

out soon and has interviews with Anvil, Iron Angel, Destruction, Poison, Running Wild, Savage Grace, Nuclear Assault and what ever else we can jam in. Issues 4, 5 cost \$2.25 (USA) \$3.00 (overseas) make cheques and money orders payable to Chris Nordon. Send to: GRINDER, C/O Chris Nordon, 90 Chapman Ave., Warwick, RI, 02886, USA.

SUCK CITY, the 9 cent wildzine from Indiana, is proud to present our new issue No. 7. It features interviews with Griffin and Dark Age, and stuff on Venom, Uriah Heep and Uli Jon Roth amongst others. Bands interested in appearing in SC and fuckers who would like to contribute to our mag should write to SUCK CITY, PO Box 441283, Indianapolis, IN 46204, USA

SENTINEL No. 3: Strana Officiana, Steel Crown, Italian Sentinels, 220 Volt, Destruction, Martyr, Resurrection, Angels, Cloven Hoof, Omega, Living Death, Fast, Keen Hue, Iron Horse, etc. Send \$1.50 or \$2.00 to: SENTINEL

Heavy Metal Magazine, C/O Roberto Draghi, Via Luitprando 26/A, 05100, Terni ITALY.

THE METAL COMMANDMENTS Issue No. 2 features interviews with Wendy O, Cirith Ungol, Iron Angel, Possessed, COC, Medieval, Voi Vod, Black Virgin, Have Mercy, Destruction and more! Send \$1.75 (US) or \$2.25 (overseas) to: THE METAL COMMANDMENTS, Killjoy, 411 10th Street, Wellsville, Ohio, 43988, USA.

BATTLEFIELD No. 4 is out now with: GRIFFIN, HIRAX, NASTY SAVAGE, OVERKILL, ANGEL DUST, RUNNING WILD, FAST, DARK SATAN, JAPAN SPECIAL, HELLOWEEN and METAL CHURCH roster. LP reviews and much more. Also issue 2 is still available with Celtic Frost, Evil, Destruction, Avenger, Megadeth, LP reviews and much more. Prices are £2 or \$4 (europe) and \$2.50 (elsewhere) each copy. Send cash to: Volker Rosell, Hochsenerstr. 96, 46 Dortmund 30, WEST GERMANY.

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NEW ALBUM OUT NOW
ON MUSIC FOR NATIONS

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MAY 93

DEMO-LITION

VULTURE

We brought this band to your attention some time ago, reviewing their "Save Your Neck" demo. Well things appear to be moving for this Dutch quintet and now I have the job of informing you that they now have a third demo which they hope to gain a record contract with.

Entitled "Chained 'N' Shackled" the three tracks which honestly don't do a great deal for me this time, being a little tame in comparison to previous stuff. "The Samurai" sounds a bit American hard-core in construction but the drumming and percussion is pretty unadventurous. "Seduction" hints at IRON MAIDEN country a little at the beginning before plodding off into almost doom metal swampland. I don't think any young lady would wanna be seduced with this but it's not bad.

Finally "The Circle" is the worst of the tracks, the vocals aren't too clever. Definitely not one of VULTURE's best vocally but I like the slow bit in the middle.

The band have recently toured with PICTURE and my mates AVENGER in Holland and according

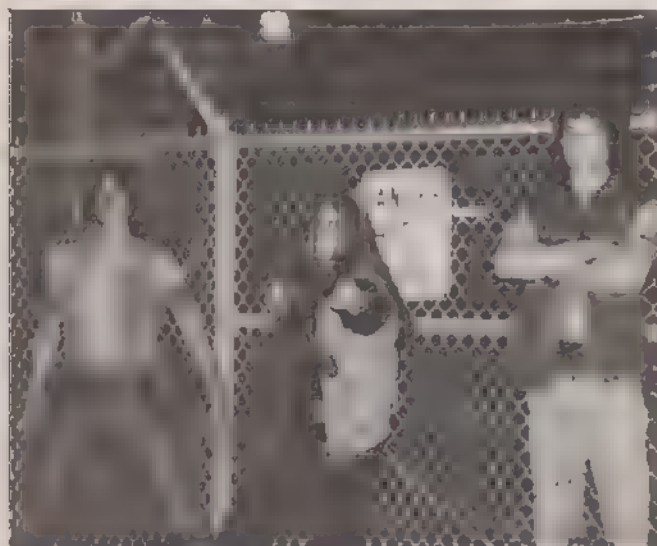


to manager Rene Willebrand are negotiating with several labels and he hopes we'll be seeing a VULTURE album later this year. Best of luck to 'em.

Demo material reviewed can be obtained, along with info sheet and sticker for £3 from Thunderass Management, c/o Rene Willebrand, P.O.Box 22178, 3003 DD Rotterdam, HOLLAND.

DAVE REYNOLDS

AT WAR



Formed at the beginning of 1984, AT WAR are a power metal trio from the outskirts of Virginia Beach and consist of Paul (arrrrgh) Arnold on bass and vocals, Shawn Helsel on guitar, and Dave (fugoff) Stone on drums.

Showing distinctive VENOM influences, the bands first demo contains two numbers, "Rapechase" and "Eat Lead" which both contain frantic riffing and blistering soloing topped with a growling vocal performance. All good stuff.

The pace of "Rapechase" is so fast that the drumming loses its way slightly, but is more than adequate on "Eat Lead".

AT WAR will soon be featured on the "Speed Metal" compilation being put out by New Renaissance Records and the demo can be yours by sending \$4.00 including postage to AT WAR c/o Megaton Management, 1979 Oceana Blvd., Virginia Beach, VA 23454, USA.

BERNARD DOE

DEVASTATION RUN

This four-piece from Ottawa, Illinois - 80 miles south west of Chicago - have been around for nearly three years now, playing their particular brand of European influenced metal.

The bands recent demo, "City Stands", contains three numbers, with the title track being by far the best cut. Reminding me a lot of CHARLOT "City Stands" builds up momentum from a slow intro into a fast paced rocker with some good soloing from Brian Hanley.

Both "Keep It Alive" and "Dealer" are pretty much in the same mould with the latter sounding like SAVAGE but with slightly more commercial overtones.

The band are planning to put their demo onto vinyl and release it through Dave Richard's Iron Works label, but until that time the tape will be available for \$4.50.

DEVASTATION RUN's full line-up is Brian Williams (vocals), Brian Hanley (guitar), Kevin Stiles (drums) and Joe Bayer (bass) who also plays lead guitar on "Dealer". Write to: DEVASTATION RUN c/o Brian Hanley, 1519 Johnson St., Ottawa, ILL 61350, USA.

BERNARD DOE

Pic Guy Cardarelli



SIMMONDS

The long hard toils of labour in putting together a class heavy metal/hard rock act have been rewarding to guitarist Kim Simmonds. As some of you may or may not know, Kim Simmonds had been the force behind the legendary SAVOY BROWN for 15 years. Perhaps a little tired of being remembered for past glories, Kim is determined to once again bring his axe to the attention of his old fans in addition to their younger brothers. In doing so Kim has formed a new band called, SIMMONDS with a new modern metal sound and a class line-up of some old and new blood.

Complementing the guitar expertise of Kim Simmonds is a solid background of rockers, whose credits speak for themselves. On bass is a name not unfamiliar to METAL FORCES readers, ex-RODS member, Gary Bordonaro. On lead and rhythm guitar is Duck McDonald. Duck has toured with SHAKIN STREET and his own short lived BIBLE BLACK. He will also be featured on the Carl Canedy solo LP, "Thrasher". On drums is Joe Hasselvander. Joe has pounded with ex-VIRGIN STEELER, Jack Starr, and has a solo LP of his own (should be out when you read this) on Pentagram Records. Finally on vocals is Jimmy Kunes. Jimmy's last outing was fronting ex-RIOT members in the short lived, SILENT PARTNER.

As one can guess from the ingredients, SIMMONDS is a tight outfit. This fact is exemplified on their latest demo. The songs are blues born but mature into heavy driving rockers with phenomenal guitar solos shown in tracks like, "Fast Life". Kim Simmonds has successfully made the transition from the mid-60's through to the mid-80's as only few have done before. This winning formula shines throughout their demo showing a diversification rarely found in today's younger talent. "Man Of Stone" is a RODS type rocker relying on raw power and rough edge vocals. "Right On The Money" cruises along building into the crowd pleasing anthem. "On The Rocks" is the guitar showcase instrumental proving the Simmonds/Bordonaro combination a natural. This is the number that can bring Kim back into the glory of his halcyon days. "You'll Always Live On" is a slow starting, soft sung ballad that climbs to the pinnacle of crooning and guitar accompaniment.

SIMMONDS is currently touring with SAVATAGE in the mid-west USA, and are negotiating deals which could bring them to the English shores within a year.

PHILIP DIBENEDETTO



Pic Jim Horowitz

MAYHEM

MAYHEM are the latest in Deathcore Thrash from New York. The band were formed by ex-ASSAULT axeman Gordon Ancis who recruited bassist Tony Marc (also ex-ASSAULT) and drummer and lead vocalist Tommy Carroll, formerly with CORRUPT.

Despite a rather poor quality rehearsal tape it's obvious that MAYHEM have more to offer than pure mindless thrash. The material, which is strictly hardcore or deathcore as the band put it, is still developing, but the mixture of out-and-out thrash with controlled tempo changes shows plenty of imagination with the instrumentation being above average. However I can't say I go a bundle on the blatant punk vocals.

Of the five numbers available I would say that "Death Wish" and "Mayhem Destruction" are probably the best but it's all unbelievably intensive stuff and I'm certainly not gonna argue with the bands claims of being the fastest band around today!

The tape is available (but be warned of the quality) for \$5.00 and cheques/money orders should be made payable to Tommy Carroll. By the way Tony Marc who appears on the tape has been replaced by ex-SMEGMA bassist Craig Setari. (Thanks to Mike Bevil and Death And Destruction magazine for that piece of information).

For more info write to: MAYHEMIC - DESTRUCTION C/O Tommy Carroll, 1780 First Avenue, Apt 8c, New York, NY 10128, USA.

BERNARD DOE

ATOMIC OPERA



ATOMIC OPERA have only been in existence since the beginning of the year. But it shouldn't be too long before this Florida quintet start making a name for themselves.

The bands first demo contains two tracks - "Kamikaze" and "Take Control" - both showing touches of MAIDEN but are far heavier especially the latter which whips up into quite a thrashy affair making good use of their twin lead attack.

Vocals from Ryan Dalton are adequate if not over impressive but he is not helped by the poor mix of the tape. Given a good production ATOMIC OPERA could develop into quite a promising act indeed.

The bands full line-up is Ryan Dalton (vocals), Todd Grubbs and Hal Dunn (both guitars), Mike Martinez (bass) and Mike Furney (drums/vocals). The demo can be yours by sending \$3.00 including postage to ATOMIC OPERA, P.O.Box 1027, Valrico, Florida 33594, USA.

BERNARD DOE

SLIKK KIXX

SLIKK KIXX! Sheffield's answer to WRATHCHILD or are they just a bunch of GRIP clones? The band consists of Rick Satin (guitars/lead vocals), Mikki Silver (guitars/vocals), Marc Diamond (bass/vocals) and P.J. Pearl (drums and vocals).

The band were formed in September, 1983 as REBEL. The line-up changed in January 1984 bringing in Mikki to give the band more depth and power. The vocalist at that time then left the band and REBEL had problems replacing him. Then along came Rick Satin. The band then changed it's name from REBEL to SLIKK KIXX. January '85 and a two track demo was recorded featuring "Teenage Girls" and "Take 'Em Down". This got SLIKK KIXX gigs in the Sheffield club circuit.

Now this brings us up to date with their latest demo "Broken Down Angel", "Fight It" and a remix of "Teenage Girls". All of the three tracks on the demo are likeable stuff. "Broken Down Angel" features a nice guitar break from axe grating Rick Satin, the song is more metal than glam really, but has a real chanty chorus. "Fight It" intros like LEGS DIAMOND's "Remember My Name" and develops into a mid-paced rocker and probably the demos lowest point. "Teenage Girls" is much better and is the sort of glam rock that the

FALLEN ANGEL



A terrible quality demo didn't do this Rochester, New York band any favours, but having twiddled around with my hi-fi I managed to get a reasonable reproduction by reducing the bass and turning up the treble.

The band, average age of which is 19, describe themselves as a power-metal band but I argue against that as songs like "Too Young" are pretty toned down stuff but they do have slightly raunchy penned tracks of which "Sinners Vengeance" is one. John Gruppe and Rob Lotta excel on guitars, particularly on the ENFORCER-ish "Neutral Zone" (my favourite track) and Tyrone Nathan on vocals proves an asset. (Joe Giorgione is the nam on powerhouse drums).

The 5-track demo was recorded at Music America Studios, I think the reason mine has terrible reproduction is that it's a fiftieth generation copy! It should be interesting to hear further output from this band, not to be confused with the pre-STARZ band of the same name.

Fan Club and info; FALLEN ANGEL Disciples, PO Box 26572, Rochester, New York, 14626-0572, USA.

DAVE REYNOLDS



likes of Doe could get into although the "Heys" would put him off.

I hope SLIKK KIXX go places because rock in London is in a bit of a state at the moment; all the best bands seem to be coming from outer London; SLIKK KIXX would just be an extra name to add to the list but it's gonna be harder than they think. They will have to be able to carry out their image for starters otherwise they will have no chance. I wish them luck anyway.

The demo is available for £1.20 from: SLIKK KIXX c/o Marie, 4 Abbeydale Road South, Millhouses, Sheffield 7, ENGLAND.

KELV HELLRAZER

VICIOUS BARREKA

VICIOUS BARREKA are an American powerhouse metal trio hailing from Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

The band's current "Outrage, Insanity and Profanity" demo contains eight tracks of relatively strong material mixing raw MOTORHEAD influences with youthful enthusiasm and modern day speed instincts.

My particular fave-raves are "Last American Hero" and "The Sentence", both heavy riffing, frantic affairs with the latter building up quite superbly from its slow intro to an awesome thrasher.

There are a couple of numbers I do find a little average, namely "Rock'n'Roll Over" and "The Best There's Ever Been" where JoJo Monroe's vocals sound uncannily like ALICE COOPER.

At times when guitarist Gary Lee takes off on one of his frenzied solos there's a distinct lack of punch in the rhythm section of bassist JoJo Monroe and drummer Scott Glenn which despite proving that the tape contains no overdubs also suggests the addition of a second guitarist may be in order. But given the dodgy quality of the tape I suspect the band can overcome this problem with a decent production when they record their debut album. This will be released in Europe on France's Axe Killer Records in the near future.

For more info on the band write to: VICIOUS BARREKA, P.O.Box 3253, Bethlehem PA 18017 USA

BERNARD DOE



BLACK KNIGHT

This project is still under the name BLACK KNIGHT (see MF No.10 - Demolition), but it's really Charles Morrill's solo demo. Charles plays all the instruments and sings all lead and harmony vocals on the tape; he also writes all the songs. The tape is titled "Let The Metal Live" and features: "Let The Metal Live", "Overkill", "Clown And The Manican", "Burning Leather", "Deferaint Tonight" and "Blinded". The reason Charles wrote "Let The Metal Live" is because he has learned that the radio stations and MTV are trying to cut off Heavy Metal.



The notable numbers out of the six available are the title track, from its hilarious slow voiced intro to Charles Morrill's wild phrasing guitars. I can only really fault the production. "Overkill" sounded as if it was gonna go for death, but it's not really heavy enough although the pace of the number is typical DOE metal style. "Clown And The Manican" sounds a bit as if Charles is in pain and is definitely the worst number on the tape. "Burning Leather" sees the excitement rise again and a nice guitar solo probably makes it the demo's finest cut. "Blinded" closes the tape in fine style. The main problem with Charles is direction, I wouldn't say there is any term to describe Charles' music but I suppose in originality terms that's really good news.

Anyway Charles has over 400 good songs waiting to become hits, and now he is just looking for the right record company. Check out the picture as well, a definite improvement on the BLACK KNIGHT image.

Write to: BLACK KNIGHT C/O Sosa Concert Productions, P.O.Box 4486, Downey, CA 90242, USA.

KELV HELLRAZER

SABOTAGE



Bernard Doe tells me that this Italian band sound a great deal like IRON MAIDEN. Let's see shall we. Insert demo. Let's go! Well they do sound like IRON MAIDEN but only because vocalist Adolfo Morviducci sounds uncannily like Bruce Dickinson.... and remember this guy is Italian! His phrasing is perfect. MF sticks its neck out and predicts BIG things for these guys. I haven't been exposed to a great deal of Italian metal, which in some ways is kind of a blessing 'cos, apart from VANADIUM, what I have heard has been fucking awful. Not these guys though, from the very first track "Victim Of The World" they'll blow your balls off, the spirited guitar solo's by Andrea Fois and Leonardo Milani kill with power!

"The Price" follows with a mid-tempo pace that stomps all over you and leaves you gasping with amazement. That man 'Morby' vocalizes to the gods and the rhythm section of Enrico Caroli (bass) and Dario Caroli (drums) are as tight as a virgin. Atmospheric, awesome and immense are terms that should be attached to this one.

In comparison "The Beast" is a little throwaway, slightly boogie-ish but still brilliant and "Promised Land" is the 'ballad' pushed along by imaginative percussive arrangements by Dario before exploding a-la MAIDEN to a climatic ending. "War Machine" and "Heroes Of The Grave" come from an earlier demo, which, although not as good in sound quality still kick-ass.

Whilst the two tracks sung in Italian "Killer Della Notte" and "La Musica Strana" from this same demo recorded in April prove that, to gain international recognition (which they will) these will have to go. I know nobody takes a blind bit of notice at what I write but I plead with record labels to check this outfit out. Shit, if I had the money I'd finance an album myself - I am that impressed with SABOTAGE.

Contact SABOTAGE Management, C/o Elio Ferlaino, via Faentina 230, 50010, Caldine, (FI), ITALY. If you don't then we're just gonna have to send one of the boys round. Do you want just one cornetto for the rest of your life guv'nor?!

DAVE REYNOLDS

Any bands wishing to be included in DEMOLITION should send tape, photo and full band biography to: METAL FORCES, Demo-lition, 17 Livingstone Link, Chells, Stevenage, Herts., SG2 OEP, ENGLAND.

PENBANGERS

METAL FORCES • 17 Livingstone Link • Chells • Stevenage • Herts SG2 0EP

SPEEDCORE Death Blood Rager looking for blackhearted megathrashers to trade live and demo tapes! I have tapes by Slayer, Death, Celtic Frost, Destruction, Possessed, Inferno, Voi Vod, and other blood attacks. I also have a Deathzine coming out to please all Angel Rippers so write and RAGE till death: Tom Capone/Mutinator, 11 Benning Lane, Holbrook, NY 11741, USA.

HI. I'm a 24-year-old banger, frustrated by the current mentality of most metallers/thrashers these days. I'd like to hear from people who feel the same, and would like to trade live tapes with people into such talented class bands as: Metal Church, T.T.Quick, Sacred Blade, Midnight Vice, Griffin, Cities, Proud, Loudness, Picture, Metallica etc. (I have over 600 tapes) I would also like to obtain merchandise, photos, cuttings on picture. Please send lists and opinions to: Metal Mind, 9640, Ryan Cres., Richmond, BC, V7A 2H2, CANADA.

16-year-old metal maniac into: Slayer, Metallica, Trouble, Cirith Ungol any death/speed metal. Looking for girls who are into Thrash, no age limit. All letters answered. Jeff Kitts, 120 Harold St., Staten Island, NY 10314, USA.

TOTAL Death Thrasher looking for live/demo tapes of: Slayer, Celtic Frost/Hellhammer (especially "Satanic Rites"), Metallica, Nasty Savage, Exciter, Savatage, Bathory, Possessed, Destruction, Iron Angel, Voi Vod, Laaz Rockit, and anyone else fast and heavy!!! Also, wants to correspond with females/males into death metal. Please write!!! All letters answered!!! Rick Kassell, 16247 Abiquard, NE, Silverton, Oregon, 97381, USA. Wimps and Posers fuck off and die by the sword!!!

TWO heavy metal fans into Metallica, Queensryche, Motley Crue, Exodus, Ratt, Exciter, Uli Roth, Megadeth, etc., etc. Wishes to trade tapes, demos, interviews, pictures, programmes and autographs. Wishes to establish trade with US, Europe and Japan. Please write to Paul and Philip Cotton, 15 Hinde Street, Moston, Manchester, M10 9LW, ENGLAND.

21-year-old metal guitarist wishes to contact metal maidens worldwide as well as other metal guitarists. I'm into Mercyful Fate, Metallica, Anthrax, Exciter etc. David Frame, 1137 S. Blaine Ave., Indianapolis, Ind. 46221, USA.

I'm into Tokyo Blade, Saxon, Loudness, TNT, Maiden, Accept, Lionheart and Mama's Boys etc, etc. I'm 20 years old and would like to swap live tapes, records etc. Especially of the above bands. Headbangers of any age welcome. Write to: Kevin Foster, East View, Glasson, Carlisle, Cumbria, ENGLAND.

ALL Poser Disposers: If your not a wimp and like tons of death that kills then you've got the right ad. I'm into: Slayer, Exodus, Iron Angel, Voi Vod, Artillery, Deuce and many other raging bands! Write: (Trade or sell tapes) Endless Fury, 5708 Nevada St., Berwyn Hts., MD 20740, USA.

ANGEL Of Satan wants correspondence with those who are only into bands with Virgin Slaughter/Angel Ripper hellish, dambuster (Satan's horrible voice) vocals. I am the Son Of Evil. Write: Eric Troupe, 1032 West 88th Street, Chicago, Illinois, 60620, USA. Nail Satanas!!

17-year-old Maryland Metal Maniac wants to trade live tapes of Iron Maiden, M. Fates, Priest, Accept, Metallica, Overkill and anything that kicks ass. All letters answered. Your list gets mine. Tim White, 803 Holly Hill Ct., Reiststown, MD 21136, USA.

17-year-old Black Metal Maniac into M.Fate, Venom, Bathory, Sodom, Hellhammer, Possessed, Celtic Frost, Angelwitch, Slayer, Poison (W.Germany), Nasty Savage, Death, Destruction, Iron Angel and Acid. I'm also into Exciter, Metallica, Megadeth, Exodus, Discharge and many more. So start writing (in blood if you feel the urge!) All letters answered! Motley Crue are a bunch of fags! King Diamond Rules! Bob (K.A.M.) Muldowney is a fuckin' poser! Send replies to Ray Barclay, 474 University Ave., Kenmore, NY 14223, USA.

14-year-old metal thrashing mad male. I melt into a heap of flesh at the sounds of metal. My faves are Metallica and Slayer, but I love all metal bands. Looking for female/male companion who shares my interests. Have excellent collection of albums, tapes, pics. Your list gets mine. I promise to answer all letters! Start writing!! Scott Helig, 2127 Tryon St., Phila, PA. USA.

WANTED from everywhere - tape traders, especially demos but live tapes too. I'm into all good metal, especially the likes of WASP, T.Sister, Exciter, Anthrax, Wrathchild, Venom, Death S-S, Raven etc. Your list gets mine - no time wasters please as I'm fast in sending out my tapes. Steve Hurley, Flat 4-Block 8, Ankerdine Court, Halesowen, West Midlands, ENGLAND.

20-YEAR-OLD Australian Headbanger wants to buy and/or trade tapes with other HM freaks worldwide, including Australia. I'm especially after live tapes of Motorhead, Queensryche and Savatage. But I also want live tapes of Malice, Rush, Maiden, Maltese Falcon, Accept, Metallica, Ozy, Scorps, Sabbath, Angel, Metal Church, Warhead etc. I also collect demos. Only reliable people need write. Graham Witt, 45 Baird St., Doncaster 3108, Melbourne, AUSTRALIA.

18-year-old Australian Thrasher into Metallica, Venom, Slayer, Destruction, Exodus, Megadeth and all other speed metalists as well as Aust. bands No Class, Nothin Sacred etc. Want to trade demos, live tapes and merchandise (will also buy). Anyone who writes and mentions AC/DC will be executed. Your list gets mine. Write to: Mark Bailey, 23 Ladd St., Watsonia, Victoria 3087, AUSTRALIA.

I'M a 17-year-old metal angel and would like to correspond with any SMF's into Saxon, Nightmare, Ivory Gate, Oz, 220 Volt, Blizzard, Accept, Chateaux, Axe Victims, Stone Fury and many more. If you are interested please write to: Edward McCarthy, 26 Atlas Lane, Hicksville, NY 11801, USA.

27-year-old American euro-metal fanatic into Yngwie, Uli, Loudness, Ohtani, Rhoads and similar greats with large list of live tapes to trade with fellow connoisseurs of burning fretboards, especially if you're in Japan. I have live videos as well for swaps on (NTSC) VHS. Send your lists to: Gary Garland, 1836 North Tustin Avenue, Orange, CA 92665, USA.

I'M an 18-year-old death dealer into Metallica, Venom, Fate, Slayer, Living Death, Voi Vod, Knowwhite, Trouble, Jag Panzer, Exciter, Anthrax etc. Have heard of bands like Exodus, Megadeth, Sodom, Possessed etc but cannot get to hear them here, willing to swap for tapes of them. I have videos of Priest, Saxon, Dio, Sabbath, Motorhead, Scorpions, Venom (plus promo clips Bloodlust, Witching hour) may also be getting Fate on video. Will swap videos for other videos or just music cassettes of underground death bands. Stephen Hughes, 48 Old Bathurst Rd., Blaxland, 2774, AUSTRALIA. (Metallic Rule!)

15-Year-Old black metal beast into Exodus, Iron Angel, Possessed, Death, Destruction, Bathory, Megadeth, Nasty Savage, Mantas, Acid, Venom, Slayer and Celtic Frost. Would like to correspond with any male/female metal thrashers ages 14-18 preferably in the US. Contact: Jeff "The Beast" Scarvie at 230 W55th St., New York, NY 10107, USA. Thrash till fuckin' death.

22-YEAR-OLD N.Y.C. metallor has lots of fanzines to trade for other fanzines, and for other metal merchandise. Correspondence also welcome. I'm into all good metal, especially Manowar, Exciter, Cirith Ungol, Savatage, Abattoir, Omen, Fates Warning, Hallows Eve, Sacred Blade, Impaler and Attacker. Also looking for War Cry's "Trilogy Of Terror" demo - can anyone tell me whatever happened to them? Alec Dana, P.O.Box 209, New York, NY 10033, USA.

13-year-old thrasher from Mississauga into Venom, Exodus, Running Wild, Razor, Slayer, Megadeth, Exciter, Metallica, Nasty Savage, Overkill, Voi Vod and many other speed/death metal bands. I'm looking for someone who has the Metallica demo 'No Life 'till Leather', anything live from death metal bands, pins, patches, shirts, mags etc. Willing to buy or trade. Write now to Eric Garcia, 6326-1 Neuchatel Rd., Mississauga, Ontario, L5N-2J8 CANADA and remember the Exodus attack.

I have live tapes by Exciter, Metallica, Slayer, Overkill, Exodus and Raven. Willing to give these tapes to anyone who has LIVE Venom, posters, pins, pictures, patches, demos of Venom. Current faves are Venom, Slayer, Razor, Killer, Possessed, Whiplash, Anthrax, Exciter and lots more. 'Join Venom's Legions We're Going Wild'. Write to Eric Garcia, 6326-1 Neuchatel Rd., Mississauga, Ontario, CANADA.

Hardcore Metal (13) into Celtic Frost, Motorhead, Raven, Anthrax, Mercyful Fate, Anvil and Venom. Seeking for the banger who has the Venom "Bloodlust" single. Metallica "No Life 'til Leather", any Slayer demo. Willing to buy or trade. So don't hesitate write to: Eric Garcia, 6326-1, Neuchatel Rd., Mississauga, Ontario, L5N 2J8, CANADA.

I'm a total hardcore death metallor into Mayhem and Destruction. Seeks to seriously trade demos/live/recordings of tapes. Into Slayer, Destruction, Voi Vod, Mantas, Sodom, Possessed, Venom, Running Wild, Exodus, Celtic Frost, Bathory, Artillery and many, many others. I also pirate tape any hard-core death metal band that comes to Seattle I have many tapes of Metallica, Raven, Possessed, Slayer, Wild Dogs, Metal Church just too many to list. Write to Grim Beholder, P.O.Box 21051, Seattle, WA 98111, USA. I am also starting my own fanzine 'Metal Macabre' any band wishing to be featured also write.

FRENCH metal kid collector into Malice, Crue, Alkatrazx, and oldies like Zeppelin, Purple, Hendrix, frenchies as Sortilege, Warning and many others... wants to exchange demos & live tapes (oldies and newies) from metal bands from all over the world. Send your list to: Patrick Buisine, 47 Rue de Chailloit, 95100, Argenteuil, FRANCE.

16-YEAR-OLD female into Motley Crue, Twisted, Ratt, Kiss, Van Halen, Dio, METALLICA and the list goes on. I'm looking for others into the same to write/trade and just plain bullshit with. Write: Laurie, 2838 Big Bowl Drive, Gaylord, Michigan 49735, USA. Guys with long-hair especially welcome!

I am 'Devil Christ'. I was born in the depth of hell on Christmas Eve. I am son of Satan and interested in Death metal and anti-christ meta. I am ready to trade with all evil demons around the world because I'm evil. I hate false fuckin' metal. I caught my little brother listening to Ozzy, so I chopped his head off, shaved all the hair, painted it black, drilled three holes in it and put it in a bowling bag! So all you metal thrashers looking for death metal write to: 'Devil Christ', 61-57 62 ND Middle Village, Queens, NY. 11379, USA.

FRENCH thrashin' metal 17-year-old wants to trade demos with metal maniacs into Possessed, Megadeth, Fate, Slayer, (the fast of the fastest), the Beast, Overkill, Raven, Anvil, Helloween, Hawaii, Chat-eaux, Witchkiller, Wild Dogs (first LP only), Thrust, Exodus, Battleaxe, Cities, Deuce, W.A.S.P., Vulcain, Hellhammer. No wimps or Crue/Dio fans. Rage To Death! Ramadier Laurent, La Laiterie-Voivres, 72210 La Suze, FRANCE.

AUSTRALIAN metal freak wants to hear from anybody anywhere to trade tapes etc. Into Venom, Ted Nugent, Warfare, Raven, Loudness, Electric Sun and Aussie metal like: Blackjack, Frowler, Titan, Titan, Renegade, Bengal Tigers and Akatak. Insomniac, 103 Fern Road, Upper Fern Tree Gully 3156, Victoria, AUSTRALIA.

16-YEAR-OLD true metal fanatic into bands like Metallica, Venom, Warlord and esp. Manowar. Would love to hear from anyone (in Britain if poss.) who has a live Manowar tape or video. I am willing to buy or swap for Venom/Manowar autographs. Metal Freaks write to: John Maxwell, 4 Irving Court, Camelon, Falkirk, Stirling-shire, SCOTLAND.

I have one of the largest tape collections in the NYC area. Over 1,500 'live' tapes, demos and unreleased albums. From W.A.S.P., Sin, Megadeth, Randy Rhoads, Quiet Riot etc.... I have every metal group. Write: Metal Gods Tapes, c/o Facendola, 41 Fulton Ave., Fairview, N.J. 07022, USA.

HARDCORE Powerthrasher who kills for Nasty Savage, Sodom, Exodus, Destruction, Possessed, Death, Celtic Frost, Slayer, Voi Vod etc. I'm looking for power/death/thrash/black metal bands to be featured in the third issue of 'Hardcore'. 'Hardcore' is a must for all thrashers. 'Hardcore' is dedicated in bringing the best of today's hardcore/death bands to the attention of its readers. For info, bands and thrashing maniacs write to: Darryl Azaki, 789 Hoomalizali St., Pearl City, HI 96782, U.S.A.

11-YEAR-OLD into power metal - Venom, Voi Vod, Slayer, Motorhead, Witchfinder General and more. Wants to write to anyone. Sean Randall, 20 Trafford Close, Great Missenden, Bucks. HP16 0BS, ENGLAND.

Seventeen-year-old hardcore thrasher wanting to trade live tapes and demos with serious tape traders. My favourites are Exodus, Slayer, Metallica, Motorhead, Venom, Destruction, Discharge and other metallic death/core. I would also like to trade videos, photos, shirts and other thrash merchandise. If you are a serious trader please write. I will keep long lasting correspondence. No wimps or posers need write for you shall be sent to the slaughterhouse. Your list gets mine. Steve Resnick, 4705 Broundeer Lane, Rolling Hills Estates, CA 90274, USA.

MALE (16), Ireland looking for similar headbangers from London and USA who will be coming to Dublin, Ireland during or near summer to meet and write. Into Manowar, Metallica, Raven, Venom, M.Fate, Trouble etc as well as lighter groups Lizzy, Grand Slam, Maiden etc etc etc. Also wanted anyone with Manowar, Metallica, Venom, Trouble, Fate bootleg tapes for sale. Write to: Fergus Feehily, 11 Shanboley Road, Santry, Dublin 9, IRELAND.

Headbanger/Thrasher into Venom, Slayer, Exodus, Megadeth, Priest, Maiden etc. I would like to get in touch with other bangers/thrashers to trade audio tapes, video tapes (vhs-ntsc), flyers, t-shirts etc. Your list gets mine. Write to: David Lewi, 1302 Hill St., Santa Monica CA 90405, USA.

15-year-old wishes to trade tapes. I'm into Metallica, Slayer, Exodus, Venom, Sodom, Celtic Frost, Destruction and Fate. Write to: Jason Lawrence, 1780 Emerald Drive., New Brighton MN 55112, USA.

A 20-year-old headbanger from USA would like to correspond with other headbangers from around the world as well as USA. Any age, male or female and all letters answered. Any interested Headbangers, river rats, metal heads, and metal fanatics write to: Curtis Benally, P.O.Box 1, Red Villed, Az. 86544, USA. Send a picture if possible.

THRASHER into Slayer, Exodus, Megadeth, Possessed, Hallows Eve, Celtic Frost, Iron Angel, Poison, Nasty Savage, Destruction, Hawaii, wants to hear from thrashers in USA, Germany etc etc to trade tapes, info etc. Write to: Barry Lynch, 203 Wandsworth Bridge Road, Fulham, London SW6 2TT, ENGLAND.

I'M a 16-year-old thrasher trying to start a good collection of demos and live tapes but so far I only have Sodom, Artillery, Megadeth, Cyclone and Zoetrope, plus a few unreleased Hellhammer and Celtic Frost songs. I'm looking for other bangers throughout the world who will trade or sell demos at reasonable prices, or who just want to discuss the world of thrash metal and tell me about the scene where they live. I'm into just about all black/thrash/power/death/witching/nuclear metal and I will write back. I'm also trying to start a band, the WITCHHAMMER invasion is yet to begin!!!! Send list, letter or nuclear reactor to: Nick Stevens, 549 N.Artesian Ave., Chicago, IL 60612, USA.

PERVERTED MALE, 22, into thrash/speed/black metal esp. Venom, Slayer, Voi Vod, Exodus, wishes to trade tapes demo/live with anyone in Europe or USA. Your list gets mine. Write to Andrew Tayler, 40 Conway Walk, Hartlepool, Cleveland TS26 0TH, ENGLAND.

I AM the guardian of real metal!!! I want to contact other real metal heads all over the world (USA, UK, Japan, Australia etc). I am into Satan, Exodus, Metallica, Slayer, Hellhammer, Celtic Frost, Venom, Savatage and all other good metal. I want to buy/trade demos, live tapes, photos, mags, posters, badges. I am working with several magazines so I am looking for new bands to feature. Send me your press kit today. 'Metal Venom', P.O.Box 5, 2380 Ravels, BELGIUM. Your list gets mine.

RAVEN Lunatic (18) wants to hear from other lunatics everywhere, male or female. Also if anyone has any live tapes (besides the album), please specify. All letters answered. Patrick Moreau, 658 Boul. du-Havre, Valleyfield, Quebec, CANADA J6S 1V6. RAVEN LUNATICS UNITE!!!

FEMALE death metal maniac looking for correspondence with males of all ages who are into razor metal, heavy metal, hard rock or anything that thrashes!! Write to: Mandy, Mistress of Metal, 609 Ridgewood Ct., Champaign, IL 61821, U.S.A.

MY name is Kris. I compile a Polish HM chart (taken from votes by radio listeners) and have also a special metal show on Radio Warsaw. I'd like to correspond with headbangers from all over the world. Also any band that have demos or records please drop me a line if you wish to get airplay on Radio Warsaw. Kris Brankowski, Box 62, 56-400 Olesnica, POLAND.

A totally hardcore thrasher wants to trade tapes with other total death-speed freaks into Slayer, Exodus, Destruction, Sodom, Dark Angel, Megadeth, Celtic Frost, Voi Vod, Bathory etc. No wimps or posers allowed send lists to: Robby Reid 57 Dalmorton Road, Wallasey, Merseyside, ENGLAND L45 1LG.

I am a fifteen-year-old poser, who hates everything that's not winpy. Hates real metal. Wants to correspond with other wimp posers throughout the world! Death to true metal. Wanna bees can write too. I'm into Quiet Riot, Billy Idol, Def Lppard, Ratt, Kix, Duran Duran, ZZ Top, Motley Crue and especially Culture Club. Would also like to trade buttons and posters. Death to metal that kicks ass, US posers will take over the world. Write to: Darren Deal, 4163 Stotis St., Riverside, CA 92503, USA.

I am 'Virgin Slaughter', I thrash to the sounds of Poison, Sodom, Bathory, Slayer etc.... I would like to buy or trade with all the terminal metal heads all around the fuckin' world. I have a large selection of demos and live thrash metal bands. Write to: 'Virgin Slaughter', 61-57 62 ND Middle Village, Queens, NY 11379, U.S.A.

ATTENTION HEADBANGERS!! We are Reno and Randi 16-year-old metal maniac girls from Hawaii and we want to correspond with some fuckin' metal thrashers out there! We're totally into: Exciter, Anthrax, Slayer, Raven, Hawaii, W.A.S.P., Metallica, Metal Church, Queensryche, Laaz Rockit, Back Water, Crue, Accept, Ozzy, Randy Rhoads, Gravedigger and tons more especially guys with long hair!! 16-22 write us! Reno, 1441 Kaunualii St., 341, Honolulu, HI 96817, USA and Randi (N.G.) 1724 Ema Place, Honolulu, HI 96819, USA.

13-year-old headbanger from Columbus GA, would like to hear from headbangers all over the world. Also would like to hear from bangers in LA about the LA club scene. I'm into: METALLICA, Armored Saint, Tokyo Blade, Black'n'Blue, Stryper, Laaz Rockit, Dokken, Rough Cutt, Raven, Anthrax, Malice, Iron Maiden, Accept, TNT and Icon. Would like to trade mags, posters, buttons and tapes. Write to Keith McLaughlin, 6125 Millbranch Road, Columbus, GA 31907, USA.

14-year-old death/black/power/thrash/speed metal banger into Metallica, Exodus, Trauma, Znowhite, Slayer, M.Fate, Lizzy Borden, Nasty Savage, Megadeth, Abbattoir and Queensryche wanting to buy demos, rare recordings of the above mentioned bands. I especially want to obtain any rare things (shirts, demos etc) of Exodus, Metallica, Slayer. I will pay very reasonable amounts of money for these. Extremely interested in buying Metallica "No Life 'til Leather", "Jump In The Fire" (pic disc only), 1st Exodus demo, and "Piranha" and "A Lesson In Violence". If you have any of these and wish to sell (good condition only) please contact: Craig Morton, 5401 Halsted Ave., Carmichael, LA 95608, USA.

FOUR members of W.A.R. (Wirral Area Ragers) are into total death like: Tormentor, Vermin, Exodus, Iron Angel, Sodom, Megadeth, Destruction, Slayer, Celtic Frost, Venom, Hellhammer, Bathory, Possessed, Death, Hallows Eve etc. We would like to hear from any fellow corpse grinders willing to trade tapes. We've never met a band too fast or heavy. All our lists for yours. Write to: Ken Owen, 17 Latchford Rd, Gayton, Wirral, Merseyside, L60 3RN, ENGLAND or Bill Steer, Thornwood, Tower Rd North, Heswall, Wirral, Merseyside, ENGLAND or Mike and Chris Gardner, 308 Escolne Drive, Greasby, Wirral, Merseyside, L49 1SF, ENGLAND. No bastard posers or we'll send you a sodom tape!

LUNATIC into Exodus, Brocas Helm, Venom, Fate, Sacred Blade, blah, blah. Blah also the old gods - Black Sabbath. I'd like to trade live/demo tapes, t-shirts, buttons, info, insults etc with anybody anywhere! Your list gets mine. So write to the only guy left who isn't putting out his own magazine! Oh, I almost forgot - Bang 'til death! Verne Innhel, 147 Ney St., San Francisco, CA 94112, USA.

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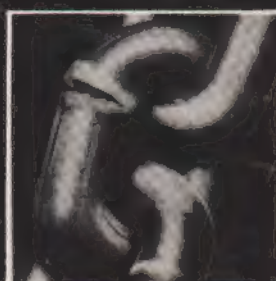
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